

Mitterrand, Gemayel hold talks

PARIS (AP) — French President Francois Mitterrand and Lebanese President Amin Gemayel met for an hour Wednesday to analyse the situation in Lebanon following the failure of Lebanese reconciliation talks in Switzerland. Mr. Mitterrand was scheduled to meet Wednesday night with Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri before embarking on a eight-day state visit to the United States, the first by a French president in eight years. Mr. Gemayel, who arrived in Paris from Lausanne earlier Wednesday, refused all comment after his meeting at the presidential Elysee Palace. French government spokesman Michel Vauzelle said Mr. Gemayel's visit "marked the importance that France attaches to its relations with Lebanon." Mr. Vauzelle declined all comment on questions about French troops in Beirut. He said the two leaders discussed a wide range of issues. "They carefully analysed the current situation in Lebanon and the prospects," Mr. Vauzelle said.

Jordan Times

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الجزيرة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

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Lebanese militias seek direct talks

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's main predominantly Christian rightist militia said Wednesday that a national reconciliation conference which ended in Switzerland Tuesday was a failure and called for direct peace talks between the rival militias. Spokesman Naoum Farah told reporters that the "Lebanese Forces" militia had already been in contact with one of its main armed rivals, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), which has also called for direct talks. "We are totally ready to establish direct contacts and direct relations with the PSP and (the Shi'ite Muslim militia) Amal and some other groups in order to reach a consensus for the future of Lebanon," Mr. Farah said. PSP leader Walid Junblatt, 35, said the elderly politicians at Lausanne were "fossils." The leftist newspaper As Safir quoted him Wednesday as calling for "a new dialogue conference with the young effective forces on the ground." He said he would agree to meet the "Lebanese Forces," with which he has previously refused to negotiate.

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Arafat arrives back in Tunis

TUNIS (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat returned to his headquarters in Tunis Tuesday night after a trip that took him to Jordan, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen and Sudan, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported. The agency quoted informed Palestinian sources as saying he would preside over a meeting Thursday of the Central Committee of Fateh, the main Palestinian group in the PLO.

Jerusalem murder suspect found 'insane'

TEL AVIV (AP) — A United States citizen charged with the murder of two Russian Orthodox nuns in Jerusalem last year was found unfit on Tuesday to stand trial because of insanity, Israeli Radio reported. The radio said Israeli authorities intended to expel the man from the country. It said the Jerusalem district court decided that Aloysius Jay Garrow of Michigan could not be tried for the murder last May 20 of the nuns at the Russian Orthodox convent in Jerusalem's Ain Karim suburb, because he was suffering from mental illness at the time of the murder. Barbara and Veronika Vaspenko, a mother and daughter, were found stabbed to death in their cottage in the convent grounds.

Taiwan re-elects President Chiang

TAIPEI (R) — President Chiang Ching-kuo was re-elected unopposed Wednesday to a second, six-year term by the national assembly. Taiwan's presidential electoral college, Mr. Chiang, 73, the only candidate, received 1,012 of the 1,020 eligible votes in the assembly. The result was greeted by a standing ovation from the ageing assemblymen, most of whom were elected in 1947 and still represent lost mainland China provinces.

OAU summit may be postponed, Ghali says

LAGOS (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali said Wednesday's this year's summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), planned for Guinea, may be postponed if no solution is found to the issue of the Western Sahara. The Western Sahara question nearly wrecked the pan-African body in 1982 when Morocco and its supporters boycotted a summit in Tripoli, Libya, over the presence of delegates of the self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

Bonn drops case against Tabatabai

BONN (R) — West Germany's supreme court Wednesday overruled a three-year jail sentence passed on former Iranian Deputy Premier Sadeq Tabatabai last March for trying to smuggle opium into the country. It ruled that Mr. Tabatabai, who fled the country hours before the verdict was announced, had the status of an "ad-hoc diplomat" under an agreement between the Iranian and West German foreign ministries.

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The most challenging test is confronting America, Noor says

Queen urges U.S. to honour its human rights commitment

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor urged the United States Wednesday to honour its commitment towards human rights and justice and seek an end to the Palestinian problem.

Queen Noor, who was addressing the wives of U.S. congressmen in Washington, pointed out that Israel has been systematically violating the human rights of the Palestinian people in every aspect of their lives, "morally, physically and materially," and denying them the right to self-determination. The Queen recalled the statement of late President Woodrow Wilson who called for the right of all people to self-determination and declared it "an imperative principle of action, which statesmen will henceforth ignore at their peril."

The Queen also referred to late President Eisenhower's "determined stand" against the Israeli invasion of Egypt in 1956.

She pointed out that the U.S. had pledged to honour peaceful means to settle disputes among the world nations and ruled out the use of force.

During the past years the world

has been witnessing "a slow erosion... in the application of these principles with regard to the right of the Palestinian people," Queen Noor told her audience. The issue of the human rights of the Palestinian people, the Queen said, is posing the biggest challenge to these U.S. principles. "The noble image of America as the world's champion of human rights has had to face many challenging tests," the Queen said. "No test, however, has been as challenging, in the range of all its difficulties and complexities, as the one now confronting America — the issue of the human rights of the Palestinian people."

Wives of U.S. congressmen, both Republican and Democrat, attended the Queen's speech Wednesday. It was the first time that the wives of the Republicans and the opposition Democrats attended a gathering under the same roof.

The Queen, who is currently on

a lecture tour of the U.S., has already addressed several gatherings, including the World Affairs Council in Dallas, the Commonwealth Club of California, the World Affairs Council in Southern California and Washington D.C., the Jordan Society in Dallas, Los Angeles and Washington, and the Arab Women's Council in Washington D.C.

In her speeches, the Queen spoke about the need for the deepening Arab-American understanding, Israeli violations of international laws and expansion in Arab territory, the Palestine issue which forms the basis of the Middle East question, and the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

The Queen will also address the Arab-American Affairs Council in Chicago before concluding her visit to the U.S.

Following are major excerpts from her speech Wednesday: "In American and Arab efforts to reach that long elusive goal of peace in the Middle East, the noble image of America as the world's champion of human rights has had to face many challenging tests. From time to time, the quality of that image has suffered from the disturbing weight of government policies dictated by political expediency at the expense of national principles. No test, however, has been as challenging, in the range of all its difficulties and complexities, as the one now confronting America — the issue of the human rights of the Palestinian people."

"For years, Palestinians have been denied the exercise of human rights in every aspect of their lives, morally, physically and materially. The Israeli government, contrary to all accepted principles of international law, has persisted in a policy aimed at keeping a land that does not belong to her and depopulating it of its indigenous inhabitants."

"Through dedicated political action by all of us — in America and in the Middle East — the long suffering of the Palestinian people can be ended. Having been privileged to grow up in America, I have faith that the high ideals of this great nation will endure... that its commitment to human rights and justice in all their various manifestations will not falter."

"I have faith and confidence that those principles will continue to actively guide America's deeds, and that the United States will put into political practice in the Middle East the noble exercise of its humanitarian spirit."

Lebanon talks fail to resolve differences over key reforms

LAUSANNE (Agencies) — Lebanon's warring Christian and Muslim leaders ended nine days of reconciliation talks Tuesday with a vague six-point communiqué after failing to agree on political reforms for an equal distribution of power between the feuding communities.

A final communiqué issued at the end of the conference said the nine leaders unanimously agreed on a ceasefire to be accompanied by a series of steps to ensure its implementation on the ground. (See full statement on page 2)

The measures, according to the communiqué, include the disengagement of combatants with deployment of police with elements from retired army personnel and reserves in the buffer zones, and the creation of a "higher security commission," headed by President Amin Gemayel, to police the security arrangements.

The agreement said the participants in the national reconciliation conference will continue to meet "upon the request of the president" to ensure the return of normal life to the war-shattered nation.

It also included the formation of a 32-man "constitutional commission," chosen by the president to work during a period of six months on reforms that would distribute powers equally to Christians and Muslims.

The communiqué called for an immediate cessation of "negative media campaigns" by private stations.

Two points of the document were devoted to praising the mediation efforts of Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and Saudi Arabia's Minister of State Mohammad Ibrahim Masoud during the conference and for thanking Swiss authorities for their hospitality.

Conference sources had earlier said the conferees agreed to the formation of a government of "national unity" that would work on reconciling views of the various factions, but the final document emerged with no reference to such an agreement.

The first to emerge from the conference hall after late Tuesday night's session, was Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri.

His body guards carried his sui-

cesses as he said: "It's over... the conference is over."

Earlier Tuesday, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt said he had no hopes of reaching an agreement at the conference and he was leaving for home. But conference sources said President Gemayel met the PSP leader and urged him to stay until the final session.

One Lebanese commenting in private on the conclusion of the talks said, "this is only a diplomatic way to say we've failed to agree."

Pierre Gemayel, the president's father and leader of the Falange Party — the largest predominantly Christian rightist militia group — said after the session: "Whether we've succeeded in saving Lebanon, I do not know."

Mr. Gemayel's government is certain to laud the conference, which began March 12, as a major step toward ending nine years of civil war. But Syria, which masterminded the conference after making Mr. Gemayel scrap last year's troop withdrawal treaty with Israel, was unlikely to rejoice.

Beirut skirmishes continue

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's warring factions fought desultory skirmishes in and around the capital Wednesday amid widespread disappointment at the inconclusive end of the Lebanese reconciliation conference in Switzerland.

A new ceasefire, endorsed by the nine Lebanese Muslim and Christian leaders Tuesday on the last day of the Lausanne talks, had little effect on the ground and the two main militia groups again accused each other of initiating hostilities.

The nine-day conference, which gave the country another six months to find an alternative to Lebanon's 41-year-old system of sectarian power-sharing, satisfied few and left most uncertain about the immediate future. (See story on page 2)

The fighting Wednesday stretched from close to Beirut port, at the northern end of the "green line" dividing the city, to the strategic army-held Souk Al Gharb ridge, which overlooks the capital from a distance of 15 kilometres.

Israel: Lausanne failure reflects Syrian incapability

TEL AVIV (R) — The failure of the Lebanon reconciliation conference in Switzerland shows that Syria does not have the control in Lebanon that many believed, Israeli officials claimed Wednesday.

It also showed that the Israeli-Lebanon troop withdrawal accord, scrapped by Beirut under Syrian pressure, was not the obstacle to peace that Damascus and the opposition militias claimed, they added.

"I think it is clear that Syria cannot deliver the goods," one official told reporters.

He said the failure at Lausanne proved that the internal feuds in

Lebanon went much deeper than just the issue of the accord with Israel, which would continue making its "security" arrangements in South Lebanon irrespective of the conference.

Another official said Syria was bound to have difficulties in the Arab World as a result of Lausanne.

"Syria shouldered the Lebanon burden and has proved unfit to handle it," he said. "When it got the abrogation of the Lebanon-Israel accord it was understood that Syria would take over a peace-keeper in Lebanon. That has not happened."

Illinois win consolidates Mondale's lead over Hart

CHICAGO (R) — Walter Mondale propelled himself back to the front-runner spot in the fight for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination Wednesday by beating rival Gary Hart in Illinois, but both men said the race was far from over.

The former vice president cashed in on support from trade unions and the fractured but still pot-

ent Chicago Democratic Party organisation. Surveys also indicated voters believed his claim to be more experienced than Mr. Hart and better able to handle foreign affairs and repair the domestic economy.

Mr. Mondale defeated Mr. Hart despite a strong black vote for civil rights activist Jesse Jackson, who finished third.

Mr. Mondale's strongly worded protest note, published in full by TASS, said: "The Soviet government holds the U.S. government responsible for that grave crime, an act of banditry and piracy."

Soviet carrier, destroyer near Cuba, page 8

Shultz warns Qadhafi

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz voiced a warning to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Tuesday not to interfere with operations of American AWACS radar aircraft dispatched to Egypt.

Mr. Shultz told a press conference the planes were sent to help protect Sudan against what he said was "unprovoked" Libyan aggression.

He said Colonel Qadhafi "should know that those planes are there and they should not be interfered with."

In Cairo, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said earlier Tuesday that his armed forces were ready to combat any Libyan attacks on Egypt or Sudan.

Mr. Shultz declined to say whether the administration of President Ronald Reagan had sent a formal warning to Libya, but a State Department spokesman confirmed a message was being sent to the government of Libya.

U.N. to debate Omdurman raid, page 2

Moscow protests to U.S. over hit tanker

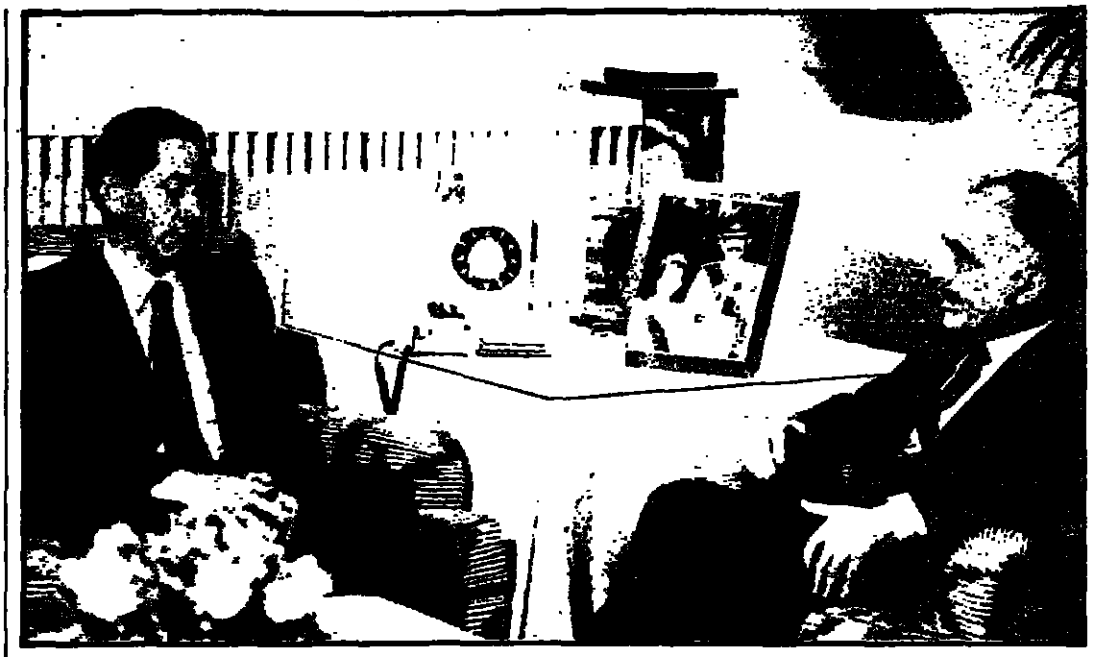
MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Wednesday protested to the United States over a mine explosion which damaged a Soviet tanker off Nicaragua, describing the incident as a grave crime and an act of banditry.

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko handed the protest to U.S. Charge d'Affaires Warren Zimmerman after summoning him to his ministry Wednesday afternoon, a U.S. spokesman said.

TASS news agency earlier reported that five Soviet seamen were injured Tuesday when the tanker Lugansk hit a mine laid by anti-government rebels off the Nicaraguan Pacific port of Puerto Sandino. The vessel was badly damaged.

Mr. Gromyko's strongly worded protest note, published in full by TASS, said: "The Soviet government holds the U.S. government responsible for that grave crime, an act of banditry and piracy."

Soviet carrier, destroyer near Cuba, page 8



His Majesty King Hussein confers with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Egyptian envoy Osama Al Baz, who arrived Wednesday carrying a message to the King from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (Petra photo)

King receives Egyptian message on Mideast, Gulf and Sudan

By Afifa A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The message, delivered to the King at Al Nadwa Palace by the director of President Mubarak's Political Affairs Office, Osama Al Baz, dealt with the situation in the Middle East region and developments with regard to Palestinian question and the Gulf war as well as last Friday's air raid on the Sudanese city of Omdurman for which Egypt and Sudan have blamed Libya.

Later, in an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Baz said that the message was in the context of consultations between the Egy-

ptian and Jordanian leaderships on "all matters of common concern."

"Both leaderships believe that a concerted and co-ordinated Arab policy is a must and necessity, in view of the challenges we confront at this stage," Dr. Baz said.

He said: "Ideally there should have been a co-ordinated policy among all Arab states or at least those Arab states which shoulder special responsibility in the Arab region. But since this has not been feasible for reasons we all know, it becomes incumbent upon us in Jordan and Egypt to co-ordinate our efforts and compare notes with respect to the problems we face."

"We are exchanging information, views and co-ordinating

steps we take together in order to maximise the use of our resources vis-a-vis the outside world."

In the interview, Dr. Baz spoke about prospects of Mr. Mubarak visiting Jordan, the air raid on Khartoum, Egypt's stand towards the Arab League, future of U.S. peace initiatives, Egypt's position vis-a-vis the Iran-Iraq war and ways to help end the war as well as Egypt's relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Upon his arrival here Dr. Baz was met by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and other officials. He is due to leave for Cairo Thursday.

A detailed report on the Jordan Times' interview with Dr. Baz will be published in Saturday's newspaper.

Reagan abandons plan to sell Stinger missiles to Jordan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan, facing defeat in Congress, has decided to drop his plan to sell Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Wednesday.

Mr. Speakes said the United States had notified "the appropriate parties," meaning Jordan and Saudi Arabia, about Mr. Reagan's decision.

"Last night, the president decided to withdraw the proposed sale," Mr. Speakes said. He said the decision was made "in consultation with Congress," and Mr. Reagan's foreign policy advisers.

Referring to the difficulties the proposed sale faced in Congress, Mr. Speakes said: "There was increasing opposition, no doubt about it."

The plan drew strong election-year opposition in Congress and from Israel and American Jewish groups.

Mr. Reagan, seeking reelection in November, reached his decision Tuesday night, less than a week after His Majesty King Hussein harshly criticised U.S. Middle East policy.

In interviews last week, the King also said that Jordan reserves the right to seek the arms it needs

Jordan regrets U.S. decision

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government said Wednesday it regretted President Reagan's decision to withdraw his plan to sell Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan.

"The Jordanian government, after being informed of the decision, deeply regrets this step which is considered detrimental to the Kingdom's defence capability," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted a government spokesman as saying.

The U.S. embassy in Amman notified the government of the decision earlier Wednesday, it quoted the spokesman as saying.

Jordan submitted a request to the U.S. three years ago to purchase the missiles for self defence purposes, the statement added.

for its defence from other sources, including the Soviet Union.

Criticising the continued unrestrained support the U.S. provides for Israel, the King said Washington had lost its credibility as a honest mediator.

Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday that King Hussein has hurt chances for suc-

cess of Mr. Reagan's Middle East peace plan and has dealt "a very serious setback" to his own chances of getting Stinger anti-aircraft missiles from the United States.

Mr. Speakes refused to comment Wednesday on press reports that the administration had failed to reach a compromise to kill a bill introduced in the Senate which would recognise Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move the U.S. embassy there from Tel Aviv.

The reports said the American-Israeli public affairs committee, a leading pro-Israel group with immense influence in Congress, had rejected an offer under which the Stinger sale would be cancelled if Israel's supporters agreed to kill the Jerusalem legislation.

Secretary of State Shultz apparently hinted at such an offer when he told a press conference Tuesday that "there are a variety of other issues (in addition to the Stingers) that have been raised in Congress... particularly the proposal that the U.S. embassy be moved to Jerusalem."

Nevertheless, it was said, Mr. Reagan abandoned the proposed sale of the Stingers because of strong congressional opposition to it.

Weizman launches new political party

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Defence Minister Ezer Weizman has launched his long-awaited election campaign with a call for the Jewish state to come to terms with its Arab neighbours.

The former air force commander announced Tuesday that he was creating a new party to give dissatisfied Israelis an alternative to the Likud power bloc, which has held sway here for seven years, and the Labour Party, its only major opponent. His chance will probably come later this year, since Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government is being forced to call early elections.

In 1978 and 1977, Mr. Weizman as defence minister was instrumental in advancing the Egyptian-Israeli talks, conciliating the differences between the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and former Prime Minister Menachem Begin and

smoothing the way for the U.S.-sponsored Camp David treaty between Egypt and Israel.

But in 1980 he resigned his post protesting over defence cuts and since then has maintained public silence — a strategy uncharacteristic of Israeli politicians.

In an interview with the Associated Press Wednesday, the car dealer said he would like to do away with the plethora of political parties that fill the Israeli political spectrum and build up his organisation into one of two major parties — "just like they have in the U.S."

Mr. Weizman said he was counting on the estimated five per cent "floating vote" not aligned with any party and on discontended supporters of the Likud, of which he was a member until Mr. Begin's Herut Party ousted him for failing to support Mr. Begin in a 1981 no-confidence

vote. Mr. Weizman said the Likud — made up of Herut and the Liberal Party — had bungled the chance it was given by the 1979 Egypt-Israeli treaty.

"We're surrounded by a good 80 million Arabs. The future of Israel is to find an honourable way to live with them and the treaty with Egypt was the beginning of it. The Likud signed it... and then they fouled it up," he said.

He would seek an immediate Israeli pullout from Lebanon with "reasonable" security arrangements and a tacit understanding with Syria of the kind that has kept the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights quiet for years. Mr. Weizman also said he would renew the talks on "autonomy" for the 1.3 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shamir reconciled to early elections, page 2

Shultz says Gulf closure would be 'manageable'

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday even if an effort were made to block the strategic Strait of Hormuz, it would be "manageable" and would not cause long term disruption of oil supplies.

Iran has threatened to block the vital strait, through which most of the West's petroleum flows, in its war with Iraq, a conflict that Mr. Shultz described to a news conference as "a huge tragedy for both countries... and you can only weep for the people involved."

Mr. Shultz reiterated President Ronald Reagan's statements that "The United States and our friends are determined that the international waterways will remain open." He added that "it is our opinion that in view of the basic difficulty of closing the straits that... even if an effort is made it will be manageable, it will not cause a genuinely long term disruption in the flow of oil supplies."

"We now have on hand, and so do others in other countries, very large stocks deliberately prepared as a matter of national policy so that we are better able to cope

with any short-term interruption that may come about and to see to it that that doesn't result in any major explosion in the oil market and a major disruption of our own economy," he continued. "From our standpoint and that of the West generally we are working hard to keep the problem within manageable proportions."

In New York Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Tuesday that he believes Iran is pursuing its war with Iraq in order to maintain high oil prices.

He said at a meeting of international maritime shippers sponsored by Seatrade Magazine that Iran is trying to cow other Middle

Eastern nations into going along with high oil prices.

"What Iran is seeking to do is to demonstrate its implacability by pursuing a war that started many years ago without regard to casualties and to teach all the other nations in that area that standing up to Iran is a very dangerous business," he told 500 executives at the passenger ship terminal.

"There is a great deal of discussion about closing the Straits of Hormuz," Mr. Kissinger continued. "I do not believe the industrial democracies can accept this. But I also do not believe it will happen."

"I believe what Iran will attempt to do once it has achieved some of its minimum objectives in the conflict with Iraq, is to use OPEC as the means of limiting the production of the moderate Arab oil producers in order to maintain a high price and at the same time to bring pressure on the domestic structure of these oil producing countries because if they have to allocate shrinking budgets when

they are committed to substantial development programmes, their domestic structure could get into great difficulty," he said.

Dr. Kissinger said that "anyone who watches the deliberations in OPEC sees the Iranians at one and the same time maintain the right for maximum production for themselves and also high oil prices which can only be achieved by making the Gulf producers swing producers that have to reduce their production in order to maintain the Iranian prices. They have not yet been totally successful in this, but that seems to me to be their basic strategy."

The former secretary said the Soviet Union was bogged down somewhat in its dealings with the West because it has "a leadership problem."

At the same time, he said, the United States is given to changing its foreign policy every four or eight years with the election of a new president which encourages the Soviets to wait and see if the change might be beneficial to them.

Rumsfeld due in Cairo today

CAIRO (AP) — U.S. Middle East Envoy Donald Rumsfeld is scheduled to arrive in Cairo Thursday for talks with Egyptian officials, an authoritative diplomatic source said Wednesday.

The source, who declined to be identified by name or nationality, said the visit will be in the context of Mr. Rumsfeld's mission to help resolve the Lebanese crisis and the broader Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said the Cairo visit, presumably the first leg of a Middle East tour, has "no special significance" and is not related to the Sudan situation following last Friday's raid on the city of Omdurman by a Soviet-built TU-22 jet bomber.

The source said he had no details of Mr. Rumsfeld's activity in Cairo and the rest of his Middle East itinerary.

Mr. Rumsfeld will leave Cairo Friday morning for an undisclosed destination, the informant said.

Cyprus prospect in 'critical phase', U.S. official says

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's efforts to negotiate a Cyprus settlement are in a "critical phase" and it should be apparent in two to four weeks if progress will be possible, a top U.S. official said Tuesday.

Richard Burt, assistant secretary of state for European affairs, told a congressional panel that "we have movement," but that it is too soon to tell whether there will be progress.

He noted Mr. Perez de Cuellar had met in recent days with Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash and Greek Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou, who was in Washington on Tuesday to see Secretary of State George Shultz.

"So right now, I think, we're in a very critical phase, and in the next two, three or four weeks we will know whether or not there will be forward movement."

On another topic, Mr. Burt reiterated that the United States regards its bases agreement with Greece as leaving open the possibility of continued U.S. use at the end of its five-year term, unless Greece backs out.

Text of Lausanne agreement

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, (R) — Following is the full text of a communiqué issued Tuesday night by the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference in Lausanne.

The Lebanese reconciliation conference held in Lausanne from 12 March 1984 to 20 March 1984 has progressed significantly in the study of the constitutional, political and social issues submitted to it which made it imperative to form a constitutional commission charged with the preparation of Lebanon's future constitution, composed of a number of specialists in law and politics.

Decided unanimously: 1. A ceasefire and a security plan based on the following:

- Separation of the fighting forces
- Withdrawal of heavy weapons
- Formulation of a plan for the return of the army to its barracks.
- Giving the internal security forces the responsibility for security and providing it with human elements from the military draft and the army reserve.

2. Cessation of all negative media campaigns in various forms.

3. Formation of a constitutional commission to prepare a draft new constitution for Lebanon in the future, composed of 32 members chosen by the president in consultation with the members of the conference. This commission will submit a report of the results of its work within six months.

4. The members of the reconciliation conference will continue their consultation and will meet upon the request of the president.

5. The conferees express appreciation to the constructive role of the representative of His Majesty King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Sheikh Mohammad Ibrahim Al Massoud, and the representative of H.E. President Hafez Al Assad, Vice President of the Syrian Arab Republic, His Excellency Abdul Halim Khaddam.

6. The conference expresses its thanks to the authorities of the Canton De Vaud and the federal authorities for their hospitality and efforts which facilitated the proceeding of this conference under the best conditions.

7. The conferees express appreciation to the constructive role of the representative of His Majesty King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Sheikh Mohammad Ibrahim Al Massoud, and the representative of H.E. President Hafez Al Assad, Vice President of the Syrian Arab Republic, His Excellency Abdul Halim Khaddam.

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Anani predicts upturn in trade with Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani Wednesday expressed his belief that Jordanian-Iraqi trade and economic co-operation will soon witness a significant development.

The minister was speaking upon his return to Amman from Baghdad where he led a Jordanian delegation for talks on promoting Jordanian trade relations with Iraq.

An Iraqi trade team will come to Amman in the coming week to define the types of industrial products which Iraq will import from Jordan in implementation of a bilateral trade protocol, he said.

Consultations are also underway between the two countries to increase the volume of trade, the minister said.

Dr. Anani said that his talks with Iraqi officials were positive and that new ideas for increasing the two countries co-operation in oil affairs were discussed.

He paid tribute to Iraq for its aid to Jordan and its endeavours in trying to prosper for oil.

During his stay in Iraq, the minister met Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan to whom he delivered a verbal message from Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat dealing with bilateral economic co-operation.

The minister also met Mr. Hassan Ali, the trade minister, who said Iraq has decided to ask Jordan to provide it with bran to feed livestock and poultry.



Queen Zein the Queen Mother (head scarf) pictured during her visit Wednesday to the Maharrat Um Al Hussein children's home where she went to celebrate Mother's Day (Petra photo)

Queen Zein attends Mother's Day celebration at Hussein orphanage

AMMAN (Petra) — A celebration marking Mother's Day was held Wednesday at Maharrat Um Al Hussein Children's Home under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother.

Speeches were delivered by the society's secretary and one of the children at the school.

They both paid tribute to the Queen for her support and aid to the home and the society which

carries out other charitable activities.

During the ceremony, Queen Zein made a donation of JD 1,000 to promote the society's activities. Also donations were made by Sharifa Haya, and the wives of the prime minister, the chief of the royal court and Arab ambassadors to Jordan.

The children's home was established in 1951 to care for orphaned children and to offer them

education and vocational training.

At present there are 160 residents attending the elementary, preparatory and vocational stages.

Attending the ceremony with the Queen was Her Highness Princess Basma, the society's president, Sharifa Fatima Nasr, and the wives of the prime minister, the chief of the royal court and the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament as well as the wives of Arab and foreign diplomats.

Arab League 39 today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Thursday marks the 39th anniversary of the establishment of the League of Arab States.

The Arab League is a voluntary association of sovereign Arab states designed to strengthen the close ties linking them and to co-ordinate their policies and activities and direct them towards the common good of all Arab countries.

The present members are: Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Som-

alia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen Arab Republic, and the Yemen People's Democratic Republic.

Palestine is considered an independent state, and therefore a full member of the league. The status of Palestine as a full member of the league was confirmed at a meeting of the Arab League Council in September 1976.

The Arab League itself is an international body with its own independent statutory powers and objectives.

Kana'an opens art exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an Wednesday inaugurated a children's art exhibition held at the social development centre in Nazzat Street.

Representing 14 areas of Amman and its suburbs, 138 children are participating in the three-day exhibition at which they are exhibiting 162 paintings.

The display aims at deepening the family concept and its importance in the souls of children by encouraging interest in art in general and painting in particular, and to use their leisure time in developing their talents, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Sharif Zaid lays wreath at monument

Jordan marks victory anniversary of Karameh

AMMAN (Petra) — The Battle of Karameh was commemorated Wednesday on its 16th anniversary by the armed forces and schools and universities in Jordan.

At a ceremony held near the battle field at Karameh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker laid a wreath at the monument to the unknown soldier.

This was followed by a speech by the armed forces multi who spoke about the sacrifice offered by the military in the battle to repel Israeli aggression and to defend the homeland.

Karameh marked the first Arab

victory over Israel following the June 1967 war.

The Jordanian Armed Forces, in co-ordination with Palestinian fighters succeeded in driving back an invading Israeli armoured force which retreated with heavy casualties.

The participants in the ceremony recited verses of the holy Koran and the armed forces band played the tattoo.

The ceremony was attended by army chief of staff Fathi Abu Taleb, the Balqa Governor and senior army officers.

Delegations representing schools and universities also visited the site at Karameh and laid wreaths at the monument and recited verses of the holy Koran.

In Irbid and Zarqa other ceremonies were held to mark the occasion.

Speakers praised the armed forces for their courage and sacrifice for their nation.

In Karak, schools held special ceremonies to commemorate the Battle of Karameh.

Ajlouni: All doctors must serve rural apprenticeship

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni said in a statement published Wednesday that all doctors must serve for at least two years in Jordan's rural regions before they can be transferred to urban areas and cities if they so request.

Dr. Ajlouni said that the Ministry of Health is now launching a wide ranging campaign to spread and improve medical services in regions outside the capital and other major cities, and is posting doctors to work at clinics and health centres which will be manned for 24 hours a day in order to ensure the maximum health care for citizens in these areas.

The ministry is considering applications from new doctors for appointment in various regions especially in the remote regions of Jordan, Dr. Ajlouni said.

He said that this policy could result in the problem of unemployed doctors being solved.

Hassan outlines Arab strategy for 1980s

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in a lecture Wednesday that neither Jordan nor the other countries of the Arab World possess a detailed and well-defined strategy which can be implemented practically in stages.

Addressing postgraduate students from Yarmouk University and the University of Jordan, gathered at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at the University of Jordan, Prince Hassan said that the great events that the Arab Nation is passing through at present and the current circumstances the Arabs are facing make it incumbent on us in Jordan to think of a strategic plan for the 1980s.

Such a strategy is essential as it will enable us to confront future challenges in a scientific and objective manner, Prince Hassan said.

Prince Hassan attributed the lack of such a strategy so far to the divisions in the Arab ranks and the differences among their various regimes.

Three point strategy

Planning a strategy for the present decade, one should take into consideration three important factors, he said. These are: Firstly a return to the history of Jordan so that one can absorb the basic factors that have played a decisive role in shaping the country's history.

Secondly, he said, we need perfect knowledge of and a realisation of our present circumstances and current events and to analyse them in a scientific and objective manner.

Thirdly, we must draw lessons from past developments and events, linking the past with what is happening now with a view to benefiting from it in the future.

W. Germany, despite cuts, will not reduce contributions to Jordan, agency officials say

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing the West German government and two aid agencies in the Federal Republic of Germany this week held talks with Jordanian officials on future aid to Jordan.

Jordan was described by a delegation member as "one of West Germany's most important partners" and a country that receives more than any other in the Arab World. He said Jordan will continue to receive aid from West Germany despite Bonn's cuts in foreign aid.

The delegation comprises Mr. Hans von Rohr, head of the Middle East department at the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation (PMZ), Dr. Klaus Oppelt, co-ordinator of the Middle East and North Africa for German Technical Co-operation (GTZ) and Mr. Wolfgang Wipplinger, from the German Development Bank (KfW).

The following is an exclusive interview they gave to Radio Jordan beginning with Mr. von Rohr.

Question: Can you tell us more about the economic co-operation between Jordan and West Germany?

Answer: Jordan is one of our oldest co-operation partners in the world in the field of development.

Our first loan was given to Jordan in 1951. The total amount of aid to date to Jordan is much higher than the aid given to most of the other countries in the world. Jordan has received DM 250 per capita which is certainly more than most of the Arab countries receive from us.

These figures are an expression of our good relations in all areas and of the value that we attach to Jordanian policy as a whole.

You know that Chancellor Kohl was here recently (Oct. 1983) and he also stressed that point on many occasions during his visit.

The volume of aid over the years is DM 900 million which was made available in various fields. We, in Germany, divide the assistance up into various kinds depending on the purpose of the aid.

We have financial co-operation, we give loans for specific purposes, we have technical co-operation, which aims to transfer know-how, and of course we give scholarship to Jordanians to study abroad, mainly in Germany.

To give you an example, from the very early days of our co-operation, the first technical co-operation project in Jordan was the Schneller School and the second one was the Irbid Vocational

Centre both of which, as far as I know, have developed well ever since.

In the field of financial co-operation I think I should mention the Aqaba Port, which was developed with German assistance, and the Ma'an-Aqaba railway which transports phosphates.

Q: We know that the German government is facing financial problems internally. This has forced your government to cut all its aid programmes to developing countries. Are you here to prepare for negotiations or to negotiate a decrease in aid to the Jordanian government?

A: You are right to say that the economic crisis has not missed out Germany. We do have difficulties in balancing our budget and it is obvious that the development budget will be affected by this.

We were forced last year and we are being forced again this year to reduce the level of our commitments to the developing world by about one-third, but we are happy to have been in the position to avoid any cuts to the development budget as far as Jordan is concerned. In other words we intend to continue aid to Jordan as before.

Q: You mentioned the level of co-operation between your government and the Jordanian government. What is this amount in figures and how do you go about implementing it?

A: I mentioned a figure of DM 900 million, this was the total amount which was made available to Jordan up to 1983. The purpose of our mission here is to prepare the aid programme for 1984 and 1985. The figure we are talking about is in the order of DM 83 million but, before the negotiations are complete, no definite answer can be given.

Regarding the implementation of the aid programmes, the German federal government has created a number of institutions which implement projects on behalf of it. I would like to mention first the German Development Bank or KfW, which has the task of implementing on behalf of the German government all financial co-operation, in other words all projects involving investment.

KfW handles all credit programmes and all loans which are given under the development co-operation programmes to Jordan. A colleague from KfW is here with us on this mission.

The other institution in this context is the GTZ, or the German Development Bank, which handles all the technical co-operation

programmes for the federal German government. In other words, it deals with all those programmes which involve the transfer of skills, provision of experts and so on. Again a colleague from GTZ is here and is looking after this part of the co-operation programme.

Q: Dr. Oppelt, can you give us a briefing on the fields of technical co-operation with Jordan?

A: The main activities of GTZ in Jordan concern two fields: The first is agriculture, and the second is education.

To give you some examples of the projects in the field of agriculture, I would mention first the co-operation we have with the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), second the co-operation with the Jordan Co-operative Organisation (JCO). The third is the Zarqa River erosion control project comprising the main projects in the field of agriculture.

When it comes to education, I should mention the co-operation with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and with Princess Sarvath Community College.

Q: Dr. Oppelt, can you give us more details about the technical co-operation in the various fields you have mentioned?

A: To begin again with the agricultural project with the JVA is we have two schemes: The first is to give advice to the president who seeks our advice on all kinds of organisational and managerial matters.

The second is the central workshop we have established in the Jordan Valley in relation to the JCO, we also have an agreement to advise the presidency. Second we have the Madaba farm machinery station which belongs to the JCO, and, within the framework of this, we have provided a cleaning and seed production unit also in Madaba.

The Zarqa River erosion control project aims to build up an institution capable of dealing with the erosion caused by the Zarqa River. This erosion causes a considerable sedimentation in the King Talal Dam, so we are trying to find out in which way this erosion can be prevented.

To come to the educational aid, we have four projects in the University of Jordan. We have an expert in the department of physics, and in the department of geology, as well as a third expert who is establishing an electronics workshop and a fourth in the department of physical education.

At Yarmouk University we are establishing a centre for educational technology.

In the Princess Sarvath Community College the co-operation consists of the assignment of an expert and the supply of some equipment in order to help the vocational training of young women in Jordan.

Q: Mr. Wipplinger could you outline the financial co-operation?

These financing investment projects essentially involve long-term loans.

We have two ways of approaching project financing. One is by embracing directly important projects in, for example, the transport, agriculture and industry sectors. These projects usually involve a long time span which means we have to embrace very carefully the effect these projects have, the setting in which they are put into practice and the managerial problems they are likely to encounter.

We started our financial co-operation with Jordan in the big fields like transportation, the Aqaba railway, the Aqaba port development, the electricity sector in Aqaba and other regions.

We have investments in the Jordan Valley in agriculture and in associated areas such as the electrification of the rural areas in the Jordan Valley and in pumping water there.

Contrary to our direct investment projects we are using development banks in Jordan. These include the JCO, and the agricultural credit co-operation in the field of agriculture, and the Industrial Development Bank (IDB).

Through the IDB we reach a great number of medium and small scale industrial enterprises.

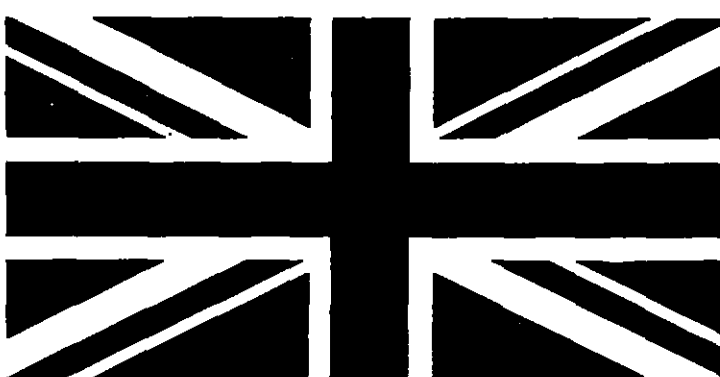
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Georgie, Georgie, speak to us

INTERESTING AND provocative as they may be, the thoughts of King Hussein on America's tarnished role as a would-be impartial mediator in the Arab-Israeli dispute are matched in intensity by the reactions we have heard in the past week from several senior American officials. Most disheartening and disappointing, perhaps, are the comments of United States Secretary of State George Shultz, who said a few days ago: "We have always had strong relations with Israel, but we don't always agree with Israel, which has been clear. We don't agree at all with the idea of moving our embassy to Jerusalem. We don't agree with the settlements on the West Bank. We have made that clear. But that doesn't diminish our commitment to the security of Israel."

Perhaps not, but it does further diminish America's battered credibility, and it does point out the massive contradictions between what America does and what America says. One wonders: If America doesn't agree at all with Israel's settlements, why does America help finance those settlements by annually increasing its aid to Israel to the current level of nearly \$2.5 billion a year?

We remain, as always when pondering America's words vs. its deeds in the area, perplexed to the extreme. We appreciate that America does not support Israel's settlements programme, because America is, otherwise, an honourable and principled nation that has usually stood up for freedom and the self-determination of all people. If it is so opposed to Israeli settlements, why doesn't it do something about them, when it has the power to do something about them other than continuing to finance them? Or to say it opposes them while it continues to finance them?

Unkind people than us would call American government policy in this respect a mass of contradictory lies. But we have come to know America as a nation that generally values truth, and abhors falsehood, and rejects deception and double-standards. Why, then, have we never had a straight answer to a simple question: Why does America finance the very thing it claims to oppose? Why, in the end, does America undermine the very heartland of Arab moderation it claims to value? Why, ultimately, does America negate and blasphemy the very essence of honesty and principled public policy it claims to represent in the free world?

Would Mr. Shultz, for once, summon the courage and the honesty to answer?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. credibility sinking

FOR THE third time in a week His Majesty King Hussein has reiterated that U.S. credibility in the Middle East has slumped to its lowest level.

The United States has been involved in various economic, military and political wars under the slogan of defending human rights and the rights of all people "to freedom and justice." But one look at Washington's policies reveals that the U.S. has acted in contradiction with these principles in terms of its relations with the Arabs and its attitude towards the Palestine question. The U.S. has granted Israel and Zionism all forms of assistance and support, enabling the Israelis to perpetuate their occupation of our land and evicting the Palestinians from their territory. Furthermore, the U.S. has acted to prevent the U.N. Security Council from condemning Israel's practices, and from stopping it from building settlements in Arab regions. The U.S. has sided with the Israeli enemy and confronted the Arabs and the whole world.

The U.S. has thus lost credibility in the eyes of the Arabs and other peoples of the world who are striving to win independence and freedom. It is impossible for the Arabs from now on to trust in U.S. policy as long as it pursues its strategic alliance with Israel.

Al Dustour: Deteriorating position

N HIS recent interviews with the BBC and British and American journalists, His Majesty King Hussein presented a picture of Arab-American relations which have fallen victim to the domination of the Zionist lobby and its hegemony over U.S. politics with regard to the Palestine question and Arab issues.

The present Arab-American relation clearly projects a retreat by the U.S. from its commitments towards establishing peace and justice in our region despite the official American stand, in support for U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 which endorses the inadmissibility of occupying other countries' lands by force of arms.

The current Arab-American relations reflect the consequences of the impact of continued Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories, which materialised because of U.S. support and assistance to Israel. These relations have deteriorated also because of Israel's continued occupation of Arab territory in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, only made possible through unlimited U.S. assistance to Israel.

Arab-American relations further deteriorated following Israel's total rejection of the Reagan peace proposals, the signing of the S-Israeli strategic alliance treaty and moves in Congress to transfer the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Arab Jerusalem.

awt Al Shaab: Timely disillusionment

E USED to believe that the U.S. was keen on maintaining good relations with the Arabs, with the hope of preserving its interests in the region. We also were led to believe that the U.S. was keen on living the Middle East issue in a just manner that would safeguard the interests of all people in the region. It is now obvious that the U.S. has become indifferent to its interests and the feelings of its friends in the Arab World. The U.S. now seems to show disrespect to all peoples and all forms of friendly ties with any of the Arab countries. It has sacrificed all this over the past 17 years just for the sake of Israel and world Zionism. Over the past decade the U.S. has been eroding the Arabs' lip service, dispatching delegations and fact-finding missions to the region and trying, only with words, to appease Arab friends, who have repeatedly expressed their disappointment in Washington's policies. In the last few years, the U.S. has taken a vigorous trend towards total support of Israel's actions and acts of aggression against the Arabs. It is no wonder then that the U.S. has lost its credibility and lost the role of a superpower, capable of acting as a peace mediator.

Washington underestimates its use-of-force limits

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The ignominious withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon in February reopened a debate in the United States over the political uses of military force. It is a false debate, envenomed this year by political partisanship.

The Democratic Party is accused of a pusillanimous reluctance to use force in the defence of national interests. The Republicans are accused of a glibbie enthusiasm for it.

If only the Carter and Reagan administrations were concerned, these would be arguable charges. But the Democratic administration of John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson revealed few scruples about using military power, while Dwight Eisenhower's Republican administration turned down the same opportunity to go to war in Indochina that the Democrats later accepted, not unenthusiastically. In the current debate, Secretary

of State George Shultz has argued that congressional reluctance to endorse military force undermined the Marines in Lebanon and caused Syria to doubt American "resolve." This displays a characteristic confusion in the Reagan administration in assuming that resolve is communicated by a show of force unconnected to a logical, effective use of that force.

What were the Marines supposed to do to the Syrians? (What are they now supposed to be doing, at sea off the Lebanese coast?) What effect was American resolve supposed to produce? If U.S. policy had been to drive Syrian forces out of Lebanon if the Syrians did not leave voluntarily, and this had been communicated to the Syrians, then the landing of Marines would have indeed been evidence of American resolution.

In fact, the Reagan administration was afraid to attack the Syrians because this would have risked confrontation with the Soviet Union, as well as a military

campaign on the ground, that would have been costly, politically damaging, difficult to contain, and hard to conclude even when the Syrians had been forced back into their own country. This was apparent.

Hence the landing of U.S. Marines in Lebanon was an act without serious effect. The Marines were going nowhere. If their landing signalled anything about American resolve, it was of lack of resolve — that all of this was a bluff.

The Marines were not even committed to support the Gemayel government against the Shi'ite and Druze militias that eventually took apart the American-trained and American-supported Lebanese army. In this case, Washington prudently recognised that any success gained in the short term, in a conflict inside Lebanon, could not have been sustained in the long run. But then, why were the Marines there?

There simply are limits upon

what military power can do. It is a means to an end. If the end is not serious and sustainable, the means are irrelevant. If the objective is beyond the competence of military power to achieve, then "sending the Marines" or "showing the flag" is a sham. The sham weakens the United States because it dramatises the country's inability to get what it wants. This is what happened in Lebanon.

Similarly, a fleet steaming along the coast of El Salvador does not weaken Central American guerrillas. It may strengthen them by providing them, and others, with exaggerated notions of their own importance and power. The U.S. fleet could, on the other hand, bombard Nicaragua, land Marines, and bring in an army to conquer and occupy that country, if it is not U.S. policy. Since it is not U.S. policy, the presence of an American fleet off Nicaragua may diminish U.S. influence because the threat seemingly posed is recognisable as a pretense.

These are basic considerations. It is idiotic for bloodthirsty newspaper commentators and Washington politicians to argue that what the nation's foreign policy needs is an expanded use of Marines and 16-inch naval guns, when they expect these to produce democracy in El Salvador and unity and stability among Lebanese communities that have been in conflict with one another since the late Middle Ages. The tasks are entirely beyond the means to be used.

It is equally idiotic for some liberals to intone that force accomplishes nothing, when it is evident that force decided that Hitler would not rule Europe, that there is a United States today of 50 states and no Confederate States of America — and that Syria today dominates Lebanon. Force is capable of some accomplishments, but not of others.

Clausewitz wrote that war is a continuation of policy by other means. This usually is all that peo-

ple know of Clausewitz. But Clausewitz went on to say that "under all circumstances war is to be regarded... as a political instrument," and that "the first, the grandest, and most decisive act of judgment in this respect the war in which he engages, not to take it for something, or wish to make of it something, which by the nature of its relations it is impossible for it to be."

Unless military means are directed to politically attainable objectives, they are irrelevant, or even a policy distraction. The real approach to Reaganesque government is not that it chooses to use military force but that it uses it so badly. Its military measures fail to get what they want because they are show and sham. The result of this is to demoralise military professionals, who know full well that they are unable to produce results that are beyond military means. — International Herald Tribune.

Iraqi Shi'ites fight and die on battlefield with Iran

By Michael Sheridan

Reuter

NAJAF, Iraq — With walls of grief the mourners bore an open coffin draped in the red, white and black Iraqi flag into the Shi'ite Muslim shrine as another victim of the Gulf war was carried to his final rest.

The rough wooden coffins came by the dozen, tied to the roofs of taxis and village buses as pious Shi'ites brought their dead from the battlefield with Iran to this holy city, site of the revered tomb of Imam Ali.

In one hour I counted at least 20, carried through milling crowds in the dusty forecourt for a funeral procession around Imam Ali's gold-roofed mausoleum before burial.

On an ordinary day last week it was the same scene both in Najaf, where Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini passed over a decade in exile, and in nearby Kerbala, fountainhead of the Shi'ite Cult of Martyrdom.

In a country that releases no casualty figures, the stream of coffins on one morning was stark proof that devout Iraqi Shi'ite Muslims are fighting and dying in their hundreds in a drawn-out war with Shi'ite Islamic revolutionary Iran.

The Baghdad government has kept its grip on the loyalty of the Shi'ites, who comprise some 65 per cent of Iraq's 14 million people, according to Arab and Western diplomats.

Both the Iraqi government and

the top command of the ruling Arab Socialist Baath Party are dominated by Sunni Muslims.

Yet diplomats say neither propaganda from Iran nor underground fundamentalists waging a war of terror against the government appear to have shaken rank-and-file Shi'ite loyalty in the army.

Three-quarters of Baghdad's 3,270,000 people and majorities in the provinces of Babylon, Najaf and Kerbala are Shi'ites. The provinces bordering south Iran, Basra, Kut and Amara, all have majority Shi'ite populations.

But with a mixture of ruthlessness and concession, the Iraqi government has stopped any popular move towards an Islamic revolution, diplomats say.

In the analysis of both Arab and Western diplomats in Baghdad, the old animosity between Arab and Persian has exerted a stronger pull than the pronouncements of Islamic brotherhood emanating from the anti-government Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq based in Tehran.

There is only one aged ayatollah in Iraq and the Iraqi Shi'ite clergy did not occupy the traditional dual position of religious leadership and huge landowners that gave the Iranian mullahs such influence.

Najaf is the home of ayatollah Abulqasem Kho'e, who, at nearly 90, is senior to Khomeini and who makes few and cautious public statements, saying only that there should be peace between Muslims

and that aggression is evil.

The sacred places of Najaf, Kerbala and Baghdad, meanwhile, are witnessing a renaissance of maintenance and restoration as the government hastens to demonstrate its generosity and tolerance.

Friday prayer leaders — significant political figures in Iran — are tightly controlled in Iraq and paid by the state, while scaffolding clings to crumbling minarets and fresh gold leaf adorns a hundred domes.

The omnipresent posters of President Saddam Hussein frequently show him performing devotions, meeting religious leaders and visiting mosques.

The other face of this policy, however, is a pitiless war between

the government and the shadowy "Al Daawa Al Islamiya" (Islamic Call) guerrilla group.

Iraqi intelligence services have scored several well-publicised successes against the fundamentalist group, one of whose members appeared on state television last week to confess to a plot to blow up the foreign ministry and the embassies of France, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union.

Appearing relaxed and even smiling despite facing almost certain execution under Iraqi law, the 24-year-old agent told how he had been trained in the southwestern Iranian province of Ahwaz and infiltrated into Iraq by Kurdish rebels fighting a secessionist war in the north.

Glenn had much more luck in outer space

By David Nagy

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Wherever the legendary astronaut with the blazing smile appeared people sought his autograph, took photos and sometimes told their children, "there goes the first man on the moon."

There was a time when Sen. John Glenn, who never went to the moon, found such hero worship mildly amusing and a big plus in his drive to become president of the United States.

Too late to help the 62-year-old Ohio Democrat, that sunny view faded as events proved that the space-pioneer image was ruining efforts to project him as a political leader of stature and vision, fit to replace Ronald Reagan.

He became a prisoner of the very fame that seemed his trump card: Unable to go on with or without it in a frustrating campaign that saw him plunge from star to also-ran and sometimes took a toll on his sunny, even-tempered nature.

As Iowa caucus results came in showing former Vice-President Walter Mondale the winner and Sen. Glenn far back a few weeks ago, the senator took one look at crestfallen aides who had gathered in a hotel room, picked up a chair and smashed it off a wall. "I don't want to see any glum faces," he shouted, according to an aide who was present. "We're just going to pick ourselves up and carry on."

Carry on he did, shifting to a peppy fighting style that continued to hit Mr. Mondale as a "big spending liberal, weak on defence" but put more stress on his own record as a centrist, pro-defence U.S. senator as well as a cool, courageous ex-astronaut and much-decorated combat pilot.

Sen. Glenn's natural assets came more into play: a stiff and lacklustre speaker before big

formal audiences, he is warm, unpretentious and amiable with small groups.

He likes to loosen his tie and chat in the manner of a small-town farmer from America's rural Midwest, while he is, and can talk with sincere pride on patriotic, God-and-family themes.

But the limelight of priceless television news publicity had by then deserted him in favour of Mr. Mondale and Sen. Gary Hart of Colorado, suddenly rising as the exciting young candidate of "new ideas." They duelled through one, primary after another as Sen. Glenn fell farther and farther behind.

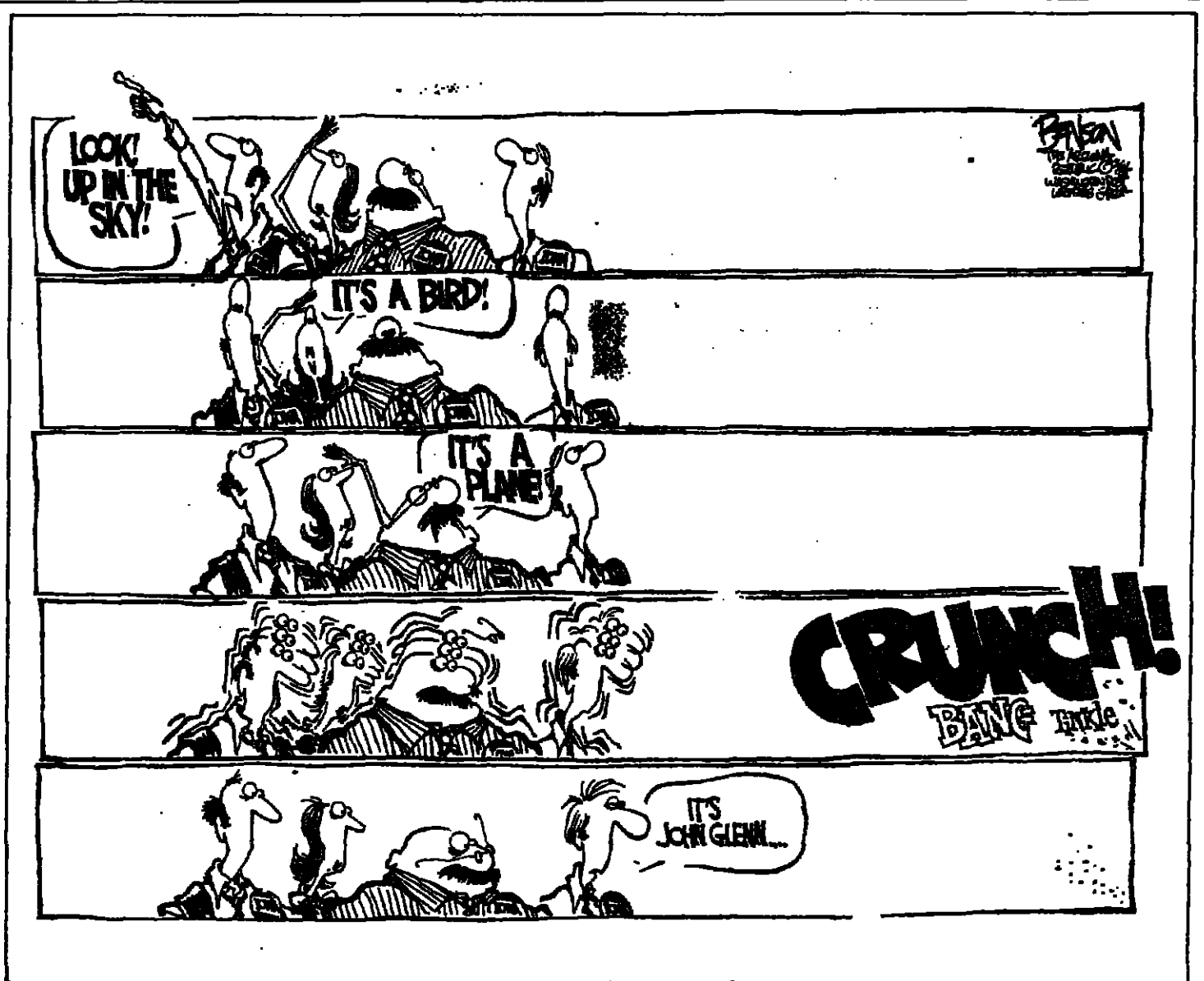
John Glenn was born the son of a plumber in Cambridge, Ohio, on July 18, 1921.

He was an achiever — an all-round athlete, a boy scout, a high school class president, a teacher of Presbyterian Sunday school — and loves to recall, much as President Reagan does, the wholesome, patriotic values instilled by this boyhood.

After marrying his hometown sweetheart, Annie, and taking a science degree at Muskingum college, Sen. Glenn entered the marine air corps in 1942. Achieving the rank of colonel, he went from combat in World War II and Korea to testing early supersonic jets and then to the original U.S. astronaut team.

He became the first American to orbit Earth on Feb. 20, 1962, an event that sparked patriotic celebration and made Sen. Glenn both an instant celebrity and a favourite guest at soirees in then-President John Kennedy's White House.

To this day, as Sen. Glenn's own aides were once pleased to point out, some think of him as the first man on the moon (Neil Armstrong) or the first man in space (Soviet Yuri Gagarin) or at least



the first American in space (Alan Shepard, on a sub-orbital flight). After leaving the Marine Corps in 1965, Sen. Glenn became a top corporate executive and a millionaire from business investments before winning his Ohio Senate seat in 1974.

As a presidential candidate, he campaigned as a centrist alternative to the right-wing Reagan and the liberal Mondale.

Deeply committed to a strong U.S. military, he backed nearly all of Mr. Reagan's defence buildup proposals but also favoured a nuclear freeze and argued that his own wartime experiences would make him the best peace negotiator.

Accusing Mondale of being an outmoded liberal controlled by special interest groups and committed to vast government spending, Sen. Glenn said he would put more stress on giving private industry the incentives to achieve economic recovery.

Many analysts and Sen. Glenn aides feel his big mistake was spending too much time lashing Mr. Mondale — an abrasive gambit that appeared to hurt Sen. Glenn as much as Mr. Mondale.

But another was misjudgment of the astronaut image and what it could do for him. His opinion poll decline coincided with the release of "The Right Stuff," a film glorifying him and the other original astronauts.

His political advertising first stressed his heroic past, then ignored it and finally tried for balance with a television and that reviewed his whole record and stated: "The right stuff? You'd better believe it."

Mitterrand's France bids for closer European defence ties

By Gavin Bell

Reuter

PARIS — At dawn last Monday pilots and anti-aircraft missile crews throughout France scrambled to meet an "attack" by combat aircraft from eight allied countries.

The 10-day exercise involving planes from the United States, Canada and Western Europe, aimed at testing French defences against low-level air strikes, highlights growing moves in Paris towards closer military co-operation with its European allies.

A less spectacular but potentially more far-reaching event takes place in Paris on May 24, when seven West European foreign ministers meet to consider boosting defence co-ordination outside the NATO framework.

The conference has been arranged at the initiative of France,

an unpredictable member of NATO since General Charles de Gaulle pulled it out of the alliance's integrated military structure in 1966.

A follow-up meeting of defence ministers of the seven-nation Western European Union (WEU), which the foreign ministers are also expected to attend, is planned for Rome on Oct. 24.

The immediate aim of the French initiative is to revive the long-dormant WEU, set up after World War II to monitor West Germany's re-armament, and to make it a forum for high-level discussions of defence issues.

According to French officials, it would give the major West European allies a chance to reach a consensus on such matters before discussing them with the U.S. in the NATO Council.

Diplomatic sources said West Germany, with which France has been steadily strengthening bil-

ateral military ties, was enthusiastic about the project.

Britain was said to be open-minded and generally in favour of the idea, providing it did not weaken the Atlantic alliance.

Italy has already signalled its interest by offering to host the follow-up conference and the remaining WEU countries — Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg — do not appear to have any strong objections, the sources said.

But it is not yet clear what has prompted France to move tentatively away from de Gaulle's narrow definition of a strictly independent defence policy, and what specifically it hopes to gain from a revitalised WEU.

Diplomats say President Francois Mitterrand's administration, with a large measure of backing from the Gaullist opposition, has been motivated by a combination of factors.

One is a growing perception of Soviet military strength "as a real threat to Western Europe." A recent survey of public opinion polls revealed that while 58 per cent of the French saw Moscow as genuinely committed to peace in 1975, the figure had dropped to 24 per cent in 1980. French analysts say the trend is continuing.

Another is the realisation that in any future conflict, French troops may have to participate in a "forward defence" of their country in neighbouring allied states, notably West Germany.

"The French know that in modern warfare they can't just sit at home and defend the national territory," one diplomat said. "They now see the defence of France beginning at the Elbe (on the East-West German border) rather than at the Rhine (Franco-German border)."

Paris is also said to be uncertain of Washington's long-term com-

mitment to maintaining a "nuclear umbrella" over its European allies, and has openly expressed concern about Europe becoming a pawn in super-power rivalry.

Of more immediate concern is what it perceives as a trend towards neutralism and pacifism in West Germany, which it regards as a vital pillar of West European defence.

A security expert at the French Institute for International Relations, an independent research body, recently suggested that Mr. Mitterrand was haunted by the prospect of "a Europe decoupled from America in terms of nuclear deterrence, gradually sliding from détente to appeasement in the face of the USSR's conventional and nuclear superiority in the region."

Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy outlined French thinking in a speech to senior military officers in

Paris last September, when he described the WEU as the only European organisation competent to deal with defence and security questions.

"The similarity of the geo-strategic problems confronting the European countries should lead them to take specific joint decisions. In this respect, the WEU is an eminently suitable forum for discussion," he said.

The diplomatic sources said France was attracted to the WEU because it already exists, obviating the need for a new organisation, and because it groups countries with traditionally strong defence postures.

They noted that Denmark, Greece and Ireland, which expressed strong reservations about the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe this year, were not members of the organisation.

Egypt-Israel relations hit a new low

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
and Lynda Schuster

CAIRO — The Taba Travel Agency here sports a large sign offering daily bus trips to Tel Aviv for \$25. But Egyptians can't go. It's only for foreigners, a travel agent tells a disappointed local customer.

Egypt's late President Anwar Sadat electrified people around the world when he flew to Jerusalem in 1977 to begin talking peace with Israel. Today, Egypt's government is making it hard for ordinary people to imitate his feat. It is just one of many disappointing results of Mr. Sadat's historic trip.

The 1979 signing of the Camp David accords ended 30 years of war between Egypt and Israel, and Mr. Sadat and Israel's Menachem Begin won the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts. Hopes soared for lasting co-operation between the two former enemy nations: Israeli technology would make Egyptian deserts bloom; thousands of Egyptian tourists would stroll the streets of Tel Aviv; exports and cultural exchanges would flow between friendly neighbors.

Mutual suspicions

None of that has happened. Today, each country accuses the other of violating the spirit of Camp David. Egypt feels betrayed by Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and by its creeping annexation of another Arab territory, the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River. Egypt recalled its ambassador to Israel 20 months ago (although it didn't close the embassy) and refused to renew nearly every license it had ever granted Israelis to export goods to Egypt.

Israel contends that its activities in Lebanon and on the West Bank have nothing to do with its relations with Egypt. It decries Egypt's response as a violation of the peace accords.

Interviews with dozens of ordinary Israelis and Egyptians also reveal a deepening mistrust. A bitter chill in relations — a "cold peace" — is setting in.

Few on either side fear a resumption of war any time soon. Indeed, both sides are pleased that neither has killed a single one of the other's soldiers since the accords were signed. And despite Egypt's decision to cool its relations with Israel, Egyptian diplomats insist they remain committed to resolving differences through negotiation.

But the chill has had a deadening effect on U.S. efforts to encourage a broader Arab-Israeli peace. Since 1979, a major American diplomatic goal has been to build on Camp David by persuading Syria and Jordan to make peace with Israel too. Among other things, the U.S. has hoped to

curb the Soviet Union's ability to exploit the conflict and expand its own Middle-East influence.

'No safety or trust'

Israel and Egypt both feel they gave a lot and got little out of the painfully difficult Camp David negotiations. Israel and Arab nations other than Egypt today cite their disappointment over Camp David as a reason for refusing to try talking to each other. The problems Israel and Egypt have faced show how hard such a broader peace will be to attain.

"Most of us think there is no safety or trust that can exist with Israel," says Sayyed Abdul Qadir, a 25-year-old photographer in Cairo. "We don't want war with Israel, but that's all."

Resentments are acute on the other side, too. "We gave back so much: Sinai, oil fields, security," says Abraham Shavit in Tel Aviv, who lost his license to sell agricultural products in Cairo. "We were supposed to get normal relations in return. But they went back on their promise. How can we trust them?"

Hopes of peace

Feelings were quite different in 1979. The Camp David treaty included two agreements, each raising hopes for broader peace. One outlined plans for dealing with the problem of homeless Palestinians. Egypt, Jordan and Israel would negotiate some form of autonomy for the nearly one million Palestinians living under Israeli occupation on the West Bank. These talks eventually broke down, and this is the agreement that Egypt now says Israel has violated.

The other agreement spelled out terms for Israeli-Egyptian peace. Israel was to withdraw from the Sinai peninsula and return Sinai oil fields in exchange for an end to war. The two nations negotiated some 50 related agreements on trade, tourism, telecommunications and the like. This is the portion that Israel says Egypt hasn't completely fulfilled.

The Camp David treaty initially produced modest results. Israel and Egypt began talks on West Bank autonomy. Israel's national airline, El Al, opened offices in Cairo, and Egypt Air set up a subsidiary to fly to Israel. Israeli companies, such as American Israel Paper Mills, started exporting to Egypt. Egyptians signed up to represent foreign companies. In 1982, Israel sent \$21 million in exports to Egypt, while Egypt sold \$299,000 in goods to Israel, in addition to its \$500 million in oil exports (which continue despite the chill).

But even in 1981, things were beginning to go awry. Israel annexed the Arab half of Jerusalem. Its jets bombed an Iraqi atomic reactor just two days after Pre-

sident Sadat had held a meeting with Prime Minister Begin. In May 1982, the autonomy talks died. A month later, Israel invaded Lebanon.

"Yes, we supported Camp David because we wanted peace," says Mostafa Amin, perhaps the most widely read newspaper columnist in Egypt. "But Camp David was interpreted by Begin as bombing Baghdad, invading Lebanon and killing Palestinians (in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps). Begin cancelled Camp David."

Dispute over chapel takeover

Egyptian officials have other complaints, too. One is Israel's failure to return a small piece of land in the Taba area of Sinai, upon which Israeli investors had built a hotel. And then there is the issue of the Deir Al Sultan Chapel in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Pope Shenouda, the leader of Egypt's estimated six million Christian Copts, blames Israeli authorities for the chapel's being taken over by the Ethiopian Coptic Church and has banned his followers from visiting Jerusalem. Israeli officials dismiss the chapel and hotel disputes as excuses intended to hamper normalisation.

The result of all these disputes is that neither Israel, Egypt nor other Arab states are inclined to try for another Camp David-type accord, despite U.S. urging. The other Arabs maintain that Egypt gave away its trump card — an end to war — and didn't win any progress on a fundamental Arab concern: creation of a Palestinian homeland. Last year, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation cited this mistrust of Israel as one of the reasons for backing away from a U.S. proposal for direct talks. PLO leader Yasser Arafat and King Hussein held a free meeting on the issue last month, but didn't indicate that they are ready for direct talks with Israel any time soon.

Israeli officials say the cooling in their relations with Egypt has been a worrisome experience. They have watched Egypt gradually try to mend its fences with more-radical Arab countries, and they say they fear it is being pushed into a more belligerent attitude towards Israel. Last year, Egypt rejoined the Islamic Conference, an organization that includes all Arab nations, which had expelled it for making peace with Israel. The Israeli government worries that it got little in return for Sinai and that it stands to get less — and risk more — if it starts negotiating seriously about the West Bank, which it seized in 1967.

Media accused of anti-Semitism

Both countries' leaders recently



spoke out about the problem. In an interview in December, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Israel is "facing in Egypt a permanent anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic propaganda in the media. Every day (there are) terrible things, terrible articles, and we know the media are under control of the government." He said he didn't believe President Hosni Mubarak's statements that Egypt's cool attitude towards Israel was simply the result of pressure from Egyptian public opinion.

Mr. Mubarak, after a meeting with President Reagan in Washington on Feb. 14, blamed Israeli military acts for the region's troubles. "The Israeli invasion (of Lebanon) is the root and the cause of the present sad situation in the area," he said.

That 1982 invasion was what led Egypt finally to put the brakes on normalisation. Egyptian officials say they did so partly to force Israel to negotiate more seriously about the West Bank. They say they also were responding to rising hostility towards Israel in the Egyptian media and among citizens.

Egypt not only withdrew its ambassador but also stopped plans for most cultural exchanges, which it confines primarily to Israeli scholars. Israeli diplomats found their access to Egyptian officials curtailed. Perhaps the biggest blow to Israel was the restrictions on Egyptian tourists and the refusal to renew export licenses. (Israel didn't respond with countermeasures; its ambassador remains in Cairo).

Hebrew in Cairo

Egypt doesn't want to be seen as abrogating the treaties, however, and some aspects of normalisation have survived the chill. In Talaat Harb square, one of Cairo's busiest intersections, a vendor dis-

plays copies of the Jerusalem Post, crammed in among Lebanese, Saudi Arabia, Kuwaiti and Iraqi newspapers. Near the Sheraton hotel, the Israeli Academic Centre regularly is host to Egyptian students of Israeli affairs. And at the Pharaohs Hotel, Israeli tourists drift through the drab lobby, their staccato Hebrew chatter barely drawing the attention of the Egyptian policeman slouched over his rifle at the door.

But an Egyptian wishing to visit Israel must negotiate a labyrinthine process before getting his exit visa. First he fills out detailed forms at the Office of Internal Security. He then is interviewed — an intimidating experience in Egypt. If he passes muster, he next surrenders his passport and wades through a bureaucratic mire to obtain a new passport for use in Israel only, a process that can take two months.

"We have to know who wants to go and why," says Col. Mohammad Salaheldin, who is in charge of the application office. "In principle, there is no permission (for Egyptian) tourism (to Israel). Only businessmen and (Egyptian) Jews may go."

Only 4,000 Egyptians visited Israel last year, while 28,000 Israelis went to Egypt, says Zvi Rimon, a spokesman for Israel's Tourism Ministry. The ministry closed its Cairo office last year for lack of business. It had planned to offer economical trips for less-affluent Egyptians.

"It is a violation of Camp David, linking political issues with bilateral relations," Mr. Rimon says bitterly. "We wanted Egyptians to come here, to see we don't have horns. That, too, is part of peace."

Mubarak-Arafat meeting

Israel also was upset about a meeting last December between Mr. Arafat and President Mubarak, one of several recent moves marking Egypt's partial return to the Arab fold. Israel's Likud government has taken Egypt's detente with other Arabs as a direct affront.

"We fear that Mubarak will be forced to take extreme positions by re-assuming the leadership role in the Arab World," says Josef Rom, a Likud member of Israel's Knesset, or parliament. "We can't ask Egypt to renounce its allegiance to the Arabs, but the price can't be belligerence to Israel."

Egypt maintains that its renewed ties with other Arabs eventually could weaken their interest in negotiated peace. In any case, Egypt needs Arab money and markets. It depends on the \$3 billion sent home each year by three million Egyptians working in the oil-rich Gulf region. Arab countries also are natural and lucrative outlets for Egypt's giant



film, recording and television industries.

Few foreign diplomats and few officials on either side see a likelihood of better Egyptian-Israeli relations any time soon. A senior Western diplomat in Cairo says ties aren't likely to warm until Israel's more-moderate Labour Party, currently in disarray, returns to power.

"President Mubarak has given up hope on the Likud government," this diplomat says. "He sees no point in making a kindly gesture toward Shamir. There is a very broad consensus in Egypt to keep the peace cold."

— The Wall Street Journal

Randa Habib's
corner

Watch for expired goods

THE PROBLEM of expired foodstuff put on the shelves of supermarkets is not a problem we can neglect. Several persons around are complaining and showed me cheese, milk and chocolates that have expired since at least one month. The law in Jordan prohibits the selling of expired goods and people who break this law are imprisoned. The law for the import of foreign products stipulates that those products are not allowed to come into Jordan if half their expiry duration has already passed. What happens then?

The importer who is the agent of those products finds it sometimes difficult to sell them to retailers, so he keeps them in his stores. Once their expiry date is near he is compelled to sell them quickly at a lower price to retailers. Those encourage you to buy them at special prices. There is nothing illegal so far. The problem is when the merchant continues selling such goods after the expiry period has passed.

I am told that there is a supermarket, large and modern, where you can always find expired goods. The owner is sometimes so cynical that he laughs when a customer tells him that the cheese is already expired. "You do not believe these stupidities," he would say.

For the frozen dough he has another excuse: "It is only dough water and flour. How can it be harmful?" Today you can find in his freezer puff pastry that expired on Jan. 31. For such cases there is only one thing to do and it is to contact the responsible authorities even if you do not like to do so as this might affect the health of dozens of people.

Tin smugglers create border rows

By Kenneth L. Whiting
Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Smugglers of tin, the metal associated with cans of food or beer, are bedeviling relations among several countries.

As the world's tin smuggling centre, Singapore has no mines of its own but exports both tin ore and metal. The metal is smelted at a single privately owned refinery. The International Tin Council (ITC) estimates that about 16,000 metric tons of tin were smuggled out of Southeast Asia last year in contravention of export controls. Neighbouring Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand have appealed without success to this island republic to crack down.

A recent government statement said no new tin smelters would be allowed. But the authorities won't shut down the existing Kintamal plant "without lawful reasons because it would affect confidence in Singapore as a free enterprise economy."

"Tin has never been a controlled or dutiable item. As a traditional free port, any company in Singapore can trade in tin so long as it makes the proper import and export declarations."

The statement acknowledged that both President Suharto of Indonesia and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad of Malaysia tried to enlist Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's support to stamp out smuggling. The ITC had no better luck with a similar appeal last December.

Singapore does not belong to the council, which holds a buffer stock and seeks stable prices.

Pieter De Koning, ITC buffer stock manager, was quoted in a recent metal bulletin magazine as describing Singapore as "the prime threat" to world tin prices and the council's market support efforts.

The council urged consumer nations, including the Netherlands, Spain and the Soviet Union, to stop their domestic smelters from processing tin concentrates from Singapore. Mr. De Koning said.

The ITC had no more success than with Singapore when it asked the London metal exchange, centre of the world's tin trading, to halt dealing in Kintamal ingots.

Without neighbourly co-operation from Singapore, the producer nations can do little but try to control supplies at the source. Tough measures have been tried in the past with limited impact.

Malaysia, the world's largest producer, tried to prevent smuggling in 1973 by demanding certificates of origin for imported tin. Officials said forged documents became common and other smugglers turned to Singapore.

Smuggled material was so abundant that a second smelter was operating by the late 1970s. It closed when the Singapore authorities refused to extend a license, the government statement said. Decreased consumption and Phuket.

poor prices led to the introduction three years ago of voluntary export controls by tin producing countries. Quotas imposed on mine operators inspired marginal producers to sell some of their output on the black market, which added to the smuggling, tin industry sources said.

Tin is smuggled in fishing boats and coasters, trucks and private cars, and in the hollow tubes of bicycles frames.

Tin concentrates are heavy, but not bulky, and are easily concealed. Greedy tin runners who carry too much may be exposed by the extra weight. Customs inspectors in southern Malaysia say their suspicions are aroused by Singapore-bound vehicles that seem too heavily laden or are slow to accelerate.

In 1979, syndicates were reported hiring motorcycle riders with sturdy heads and necks to sneak the metal into Singapore inside their safety helmets. Customs officers said they could carry as much as four kilograms each trip, or double that with a tin-headed passenger perched on back.

Malaysia and Thailand are patrolling their jungled frontier more closely these days. Less than 50 tons of tin were seized en route to Malaysia in the first half of last year, however, while an estimated 5,700 tons were believed to have been sneaked out. Most of it originates from hundreds of Thai smuggling boats working illegally off Phuket.

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Compromise found over Olympic flame controversy

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece's National Olympic Committee (NOC) Tuesday said the decision by the organisers of the Olympic Summer Games at Los Angeles to stop further commercial sponsorship of the Olympic torch relay was "a victory for principles and Greek public opinion."

Nikos Filaretos, secretary general of the Greek NOC, told journalists the decision "vindicates our firm stand against the violation of the ideals of the ancient Olympics."

He said Greece's Olympic committee would make every effort to "ensure the smooth, traditional transfer of the Olympic flame."

The flame is scheduled to be lit at Ancient Olympia on May 3.

Last month Greek Olympic officials threatened not to participate in the traditional Olympic flame-lighting ceremony if American organisers persisted in "commercialising the sacred symbol of the Olympics."

Filaretos said the Greek Olympic committee was still opposed to the American plan to raise \$30 million for charitable youth sports programmes by allowing sponsors to pay \$3,000 for each kilometre covered by Olympic torch bearers in the United States.

But, he said, the committee accepted "the respect finally shown our principles" and would "make sure this issue never arises again."

According to the Greek NOC, more than half of the 19,000 kil-

ometres of the torch relay in the United States have already found sponsors.

Filaretos said he would press for a strict ban from the International Olympic Committee during this summer's games on any form of advertising or commercial sponsorship during future Olympic torch relays.

But Filaretos said he could give

no assurances to American officials that other Greek organisations opposed to the sponsorship scheme would not stand in the way of the Olympic flame travelling to Los Angeles.

The mayor of Ancient Olympia, Spyros Fotinos, has said his 700 villagers would prevent the flame-lighting by forming a human chain around the site of the first Olympic Games of 776 B.C. if American organisers did not cancel their plans.

Over the weekend, an international conference of athletes and academics, held in Ancient Olympia, condemned the "commercial exploitation of the flame" and called on the United Nations to intervene in the dispute.

Southampton storms into F.A. Cup semifinal

LONDON (R) — Southampton shrugged off an early 1-0 deficit and strode into the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup semifinal by trouncing Sheffield Wednesday 5-1 Tuesday night.

Second division Wednesday, who in the first meeting at home held their first division rivals 0-0, started the quarter-final replay deceptively well by going ahead through Peter Shirliff in the 21st minute.

But Southampton recovered their poise and polish, hit back to

lead 2-1 at halftime with a Steve Williams equaliser and a Gavin Oliver own goal, and left Wednesday's defence in tatters in the second half.

Mark Wright scored the third after 52 minutes and further goals by David Armstrong (79 minutes) and Steve Moran (82) completed the rout.

Southampton face Everton in an all-first division clash in the semifinal on April 14, while third division Plymouth play first division Watford in the other tie.

De Castella, Waitz to run in World Cross Country Championships

NEW YORK (R) — Some of the biggest names in long-distance running, including marathon world champions Rob de Castella of Australia and Norway's Grete Waitz, will be among more than 500 athletes competing in the World Cross Country Championships next weekend.

But one notable absentee from the March 25 events in East Rutherford, New Jersey, will be American marathon world record holder Alberto Salazar, who has withdrawn due to anaemia.

Fred Lebow, president of host club the New York Road Runners, said competitors from a record 49 countries had entered the 12,000 metres race, to be held at the Meadowlands race track across the Hudson river from Manhattan.

Apart from de Castella and Waitz, who won the men's and women's marathons at the inaugural World Athletics Championships in Helsinki last August, entrants include 10,000 metres world record holder Alberto

Cova of Italy, Ethiopians Mohammed Kedir and Bekele Debele, winners of the last two cross country championships, and American Craig Virgin, the 1980-81

winner.

Both team and individual titles will be at stake in three divisions — senior men, senior women and junior men.

Lebow, organiser and driving force behind the New York marathon, sees Ethiopia as favourite team in the senior men's event with Portugal and perhaps the U.S. their main challengers. He said the women's division was likely to be dominated by Romania, Norway and the Soviet Union.

Ethiopia will be represented by several members of the 1982 and 1983 championship team. "They also would have won in 1981 if they had not made a mistake and stopped with a lap to go," Lebow said.

Portugal's bid for the title is spearheaded by Carlos Lopes, winner in 1976 and runner-up in 1977 and 1983.

Despite Salazar scratching on doctors' advice, Lebow believes the U.S., with Virgin and twice national champion Pat Porter, have a chance.

Australia will not be sending a team to the competition. De Castella sought and received special permission from the International Amateur Athletic Federation

(IAAF) to run as a one-man team. "Historically, they enter a team only every other year and this was their off year," Lebow said.

Individually, de Castella is "the one who could steal it. He's in awesome shape," he added.

Among the women, five-time champion Waitz and Romania's Marcica Puica, the 1982 winner, make their countries the team favourites. Romania won the team title in 1978 and came fifth last year. Norway have never finished higher than fourth in recent years.

Lebow compared the Meadowlands course with Rome, site of the 1982 championships. "It's very fast and the turns are smooth," he said.

Approximately 90 per cent of the course will be on grass, but the competitors will run for a short distance on the Meadowlands race track. The hills will be man-made.

The weather could be a factor in the race, since snow, gusty winds and subfreezing temperatures are common in the New York area in late March.

But Lebow said: "I believe this cross country championship will do for American cross country what the New York City marathon has done for marathons around the world."

IAAF lures East European athletes

ROME (AP) — The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) has lured Eastern Europeans into its sanctioned meets and decided to pour into the circuit millions of dollars of participation money for the athletes, IAAF President Primo Nebiolo said Tuesday.

The Eastern Europeans, mainly Soviets and East Germans, had refused to take part in the meets in 1983 on grounds that the rules governing the distribution of participation money to athletes were unclear.

"We haven't changed the rules. We have simply rewarded them to please the Eastern Europeans. They are now satisfied and they have said they will enter our meets this year," Nebiolo said.

In 1985 most of the IAAF meets will be included in a Grand Prix circuit that will pay out to the athletes, through trust funds, millions of dollars raised from sponsorships and television rights, he added.

IAAF sources said the Eastern European track federations wanted the new wording to clarify that they could collect the money and use it as they felt best. In the west, the money is automatically placed into trust funds for the stars invited to the meets.

"We no longer have 'permit meets' but 'international invitation meets', and the trust funds for participation money become 'athletes funds' and no longer 'athletes funds'," Nebiolo explained.

The IAAF circuit includes all leading track meets in Europe, up to 20 of them will be included in the Grand Prix, Nebiolo said. Main feature of the meets is mandatory drug control for winners.

At the end of the Grand Prix circuit, standings for each event will be determined by placings in the various meets. The point leaders for each event will be invited to a final event in a place still to be determined.

Nebiolo's announcement capped a three-day session of the IAAF executive council in Rome. The council discussed a number of other track issues, producing the following decisions, Nebiolo said:

The World Marathon Cup in Hiroshima, Japan, will have no race for junior athletes because council members could not decide on a distance for the competitors.

The men's and women's races will be held on April 13 and 14, 1985. — Effective in 1985, IAAF will stage the World Indoor Games, a bi-annual event in preparation for the official World Indoor Championships, possibly in 1989.

Injured Navratilova pulls out of Dallas tennis tournament

DALLAS (R) — Martina Navratilova has quit the women's professional tennis tour for at least two weeks after suffering a minor hamstring injury during practice for a \$15,000 tournament here.

Play started Tuesday in the event and Navratilova, the world's top-ranked player and a five-time winner in Dallas, expressed sharp disappointment when she withdrew.

"Nobody is sorer than I am," she said, saying she would be out for at least two weeks. "There are so many people here that I know and love and I wanted to play in front of. But if you can't run, you can't play."

Navratilova, who pulled out before a Houston tournament in February because of a sore shoulder and fatigue, has lived in Dallas on and off for several years.

Second-seeded American Pam Shriver became the tournament's top seed and will play American Wendy White in the second round.

Third-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia defeated Australian Elizabeth Sayers 6-3, 7-6, (7-4) in Tuesday's first-round action. Other seeded players advancing were no. 5 Wendy Turnbull of Australia and no. 6 Zina Garrison of the United States.

McKinney victory leaves race wide open

ZWIESEL, West Germany (R) — Tamara McKinney of the United States stormed to victory in the women's giant slalom here Wednesday leaving the chase for the overall World Cup title open with one race remaining this season.

The 21-year-old American World Cup holder's superlative second run for a combined time of two minutes 13.28 seconds pushed the favourite to succeed her, Switzerland's Erika Hess, into second place with 2:14.05.

Blanca Fernandez-Ochoa of

Spain was third with 2:14.28. McKinney's victory cost Hess the chance to extend her nine-point lead in the overall standings over her only rival, Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein.

Hess and Wenzel, both former World Cup winners, now head for a showdown in the slalom in Oslo.

Wenzel, who put herself well into the running with a surprise victory in Tuesday's slalom here, must win or finish second in Oslo to stand a chance of her third title.

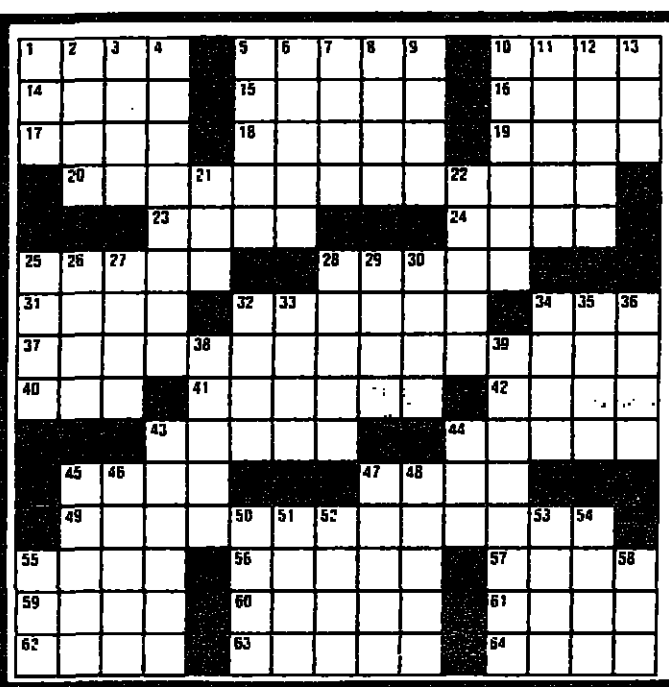
THE Daily Crossword by Evelyn Benscholt

ACROSS	25 Treatise on plants	49 Regulations imposed on travelers	21 Gabor or Saint
1 Woody fiber	28 Vacuum	55 Dance	22 Nouveaux—
5 Vista	31 Swiss river	56 skit	25 Honor
10 Pickling herb	32 Drooping posture	57 Liquid container	26 Cafe au—
14 Jai —	34 MacGraw of movies	58 Consider	27 Catholic booklet
15 Vehicles for hire	37 Moderate	59 Cheerless	28 Up to now
16 Singer Adams	40 like a theater	60 Novelist	29 Places
17 Hint	41 II	61 Ferber	30 Yearn
18 Straighten	42 Biblical preposition	62 Raison d'—	32 Forwarded
19 Penny	43 Fur trader	63 Unkempt	33 Nutty
20 Begin a journey	44 Genuflect	64 Hollow stem	34 Excellent
23 At all times	45 Univ.		35 Dilatory
24 In a lazy manner	47 Biblical prophet		36 Darling of fairs

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1 REARMS	2 GLOBE	3 VOICED
4 ESTOP	5 AIDED	6 LITARY
7 STOPPED	8 DICK	9 ABERA
10 NAME	11 HONK	12 MEANT
13 REPEAT	14 STIDOPS	15 SHE NIE
16 ABUSED	17 STIDOPWATIC	18
19 NITRA	20 STIDOPS	21 TITIAL
22 GLASSISOPS	23 REPICL	24
25 SECURE	26 DORSEI	27
28 MAY	29 ANT	30 LAY
31 AVOUR	32 STAY	33 OCTAL
34 RAPPY	35 STIDOPIS	36 HORW
37 ESTIE	38 LOUGE	39 STIRUT
40 STIOA	41 OPIAL	42 TOKEN

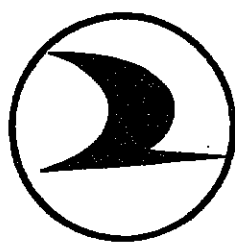
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Tel: 25155

LOVELY BUT DEADLY
"Colour"

Performances: 3:30-6 : 8:30

Cinema
ZAHARAN
Tel: 23171

THE SEPARATION
"Colour"
"Italian Film"

Performances: 12-3 : 5:30-8

Cinema
BASMAN
Tel: 30126

MAWAALI
"Colour"
"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3 : 5:30-8

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117

1- SHAAN
"Indian film"
2- THE CRAWLING TIGER
"Karate"

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198

HAADSA
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

لا تتركوا

Turkish companies gain

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish transport companies are carrying fuel oil by road from Iraq at a rate of more than one million tonnes a year. Dubbed "the pipeline on wheels," the journey runs over a 1,000 kilometres from the Iraqi refinery town of Baiji, 200 kilometres north of Baghdad to the Mediterranean, mainly the Turkish port of Iskenderun.

The trade started in early 1983 when Iraq offered to pay debts to three companies — Italy's Agip SPA and Technip Petrol SPA and Ingeco International SA of Switzerland — in fuel oil, said Mr. Selahattin Ugurata, an executive of the Turkish transport firm Atakent.

They turned to Turkish companies to carry the fuel out of Iraq, handling the Turkish firms a bonanza.

Trucking crude and oil products through neighbouring countries is currently the only way Iraq can boost its oil exports.

A pipeline to Iskenderun carrying some 900,000 barrels per day of crude oil is now Iraq's only major oil export outlet.

Today over 6,000 Turkish trucks, most converted into tankers last year, shuttle from Baiji to Iskenderun, according to transport company officials.

This has created problems for Turkey's transit trade with Iran. Last year, up to 400,000 tonnes of goods for Iran were stockpiled at Turkish ports at one time when tanker conversions led to a shortage of vehicles for normal freight and soaring transportation costs.

There are five Turkish companies involved in the tanker trade with Iraq.

Atakent has transported 150,000 tonnes of fuel oil for Technip since August last year and is planning to expand its capacity.

Internak Transportation Company carried 350,000 tonnes for Agip in the past 12 months earning \$17 million from last year's contract and expecting to conclude a contract to carry a further 400,000 tonnes of Iraqi fuel oil for Agip.

Thatcher firm as other leaders blame British inflexibility for EC failed summit

LONDON (R) — Most European leaders blamed British inflexibility for the failure of a European Community (EC) summit, but Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher dismissed the criticism as absurd.

The summit in Brussels Tuesday, intended to find ways to prevent bankruptcy of the 10-nation bloc, ended abruptly over Britain's unbending demands for a long-term system of rebates on its EC payments.

Italian, Greek, German and Belgian leaders expressed anger over Britain's unchanging stand, but French President Francois Mitterrand, who as current EC president campaigned hard for compromise, said he would continue to urge a solution.

"The British government bears the entire responsibility for this (summit) failure," Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi told state-owned Italian radio.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu was equally scathing, telling the official Greek agency "the rest of the community partners would accept with relief Britain's withdrawal from the EC."

But Mrs. Thatcher said bloc criticism was "absurd."

"We have been reasonable," she said in a radio interview.

Mrs. Thatcher is demanding that Britain pay a much smaller share of the Common Market budget and receive a \$1 billion rebate next year.

She said she was not prepared to go to parliament and ask for more money for the community unless she could show Britain now had a fairer share of the burden.

"Two-way street"

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher expressed deep disappointment over

Press blames Thatcher

The press in most of continental Europe also blamed Mrs. Thatcher for break-up of the Brussels

summit.

The right-wing popular daily Quotidien De Paris carried a cartoon of Mrs. Thatcher with a naked man's body urinating over the word "Europe."

In Copenhagen, the mass-circulation daily Ekstra Bladet said the summit collapsed because of Mrs. Thatcher's "legendary stubbornness and now it (the EC situation) is really serious... bankruptcy threatens."

Meanwhile, France intends to call meetings of EC countries, with or without Britain, over the next few weeks to push through Common Market business by majority vote wherever possible, government spokesman Mr. Max Gallo said Wednesday.

"There can be no question of giving in to demands which jeopardise the spirit of the EC itself, and on this point there is a consensus of nine countries out of 10," he said.

"Britain must face up to its responsibilities," he said. "In any case France, as president of the community, will act to ensure that wherever possible... decisions are taken by a majority."

Within the scope of Common Market regulations, it was possible that France would call meetings of the nine community members excluding Britain or even just of the six original signatories of the Treaty of Rome, he said.

Mr. Gallo said that the Brussels summit had made progress on several issues such as agriculture, but that it had failed to resolve the British budget dispute because "agreement could not be bought at any price."

Senior government sources said in Paris Wednesday that the French cabinet believed Mrs. Thatcher had thrown away a major opportunity to reach a com-

promise with her European partners by rejecting their offer on British budget payments from 1984 onwards.

They pointed out that this went 80 per cent of the way towards meeting her demands and that Britain now appeared to have boxed itself into a corner.

The decision by France and Italy at a European finance ministers' meeting in Brussels Tuesday night to block the \$630 million refund due to Britain on its 1983 budget payments is likely to further sour relations between Britain and its European partners, diplomatic sources said.

U.K. to discuss response Thursday

Mrs. Thatcher has already indicated that the British cabinet will discuss how to respond to the move at its meeting Thursday, and Britain has threatened to withhold some or all of its monthly payments to the community in retaliation.

The French press predictably put much of the blame for the failure of the summit on British intransigence.

The conservative Le Figaro complained that "twenty-five years after the Treaty of Rome, Britain is still only trying to get what it has always wanted — a European Community encompassing, or rather reduced to, a kind of free trade area. How can Mr. Mitterrand believe otherwise?"

But the liberal Le Monde cautioned against putting the whole blame on Britain, warning that "it is an explanation which has some truth but is a little short — unless one decides that Europe will only save itself by cutting itself off from its British partner. And nothing is less sure than that."

World merchant shipping fleet declines in 1983

LONDON (AP) — In 1983 the world shipping fleet declined for the first time since World War II because of economic recession and the outlook for shipbuilding is uncertain, Lloyd's Register of Shipping said in its annual report issued Tuesday.

Despite the problems, there was an influx of new orders during the year, up from 11.2 million gross tonnes in 1982 to 19.9 million tonnes in 1983, the authoritative report on worldwide shipping said.

The world fleet dropped from its 1982 peak of 424.7 million gross tonnes to 422.6 million in 1983, the report said, reversing the trend of constant annual growth since 1945.

The report said Japan and South Korea were building three-quarters of the world's new tonnage. Japan took 57.4 per cent of the orders for new ships and South Korea 19 per cent, it said, and China also was contributing to the Far East's dominance in shipbuilding with 2.8 per cent of new orders.

Western Europe, which was building 39 per cent of the world's new ships in 1974, was down to 11.6 per cent in 1983, and the rest of the world was down from 19.3 per cent in 1974 to 12 per cent in 1983, the report said.

It said there was a large overcapacity in the shipbuilding industry worldwide, "and large numbers of comparatively modern ships currently laid up are still available to meet any improvement in the market."

Laid-up tonnage at the end of 1983 was 1,663 ships, of about 80 million deadweight tonnes, and over 70 per cent were tankers, the reports said.

"The demand for oil tankers is stagnant," it said, while noting that very large crude carriers were in some demand for oil storage.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A wonderful day and evening for all sorts of wonderful ideas to come to you as well as gaining the good will of individuals by joining in with them at interests which appeal to you both.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have fascinating new ideas that should be put in motion since they can help you to develop considerably.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Confiding your different plans to your mate can help to expand your relationship a good deal now. Show more affection.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Converse with those you want as allies in the future and improve the situation between you. Relax in the evening.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) State your plans for the future to co-workers and gain their added cooperation. Rest and relax tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Good day for shopping for whatever you need the most and to take in some amusement you like.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take time for a family meeting to discuss the situation at home. The evening is fine for inviting worthwhile guests in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Although you like to deliberate, this is a day for action and getting things done properly. Get into the swing of things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get into monetary matters today since you can add greatly to present abundance if you act wisely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can express yourself well today and in the evening. Make plans for having a better social life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are usually practical, but today is best for idealistic thinking and for using your imagination. Talk with your loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can be the typical gregarious Aquarius today and get fine results. Add to your present roster of friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can easily get vocational duties handled that have been difficult to perform ere this.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be very articulate and not be afraid to speak up at any time. Important you teach to first be sure of facts and figures before speaking and thereby keep out of trouble. Give as fine an education as possible.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This day and evening has some very interesting aspects, and if you are thorough into uncovering whatever information you desire, it can be used to great advantage.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You find opportunities for development today, so seize them quickly. Make sure that you think before you speak.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be more willing to listen to your mate and improve the relationship. Then you can rest at ease and carry through wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You want to make a fine impression on another with your plans and ideas, but be sure to listen to his or her views.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You have fine ideas for improving your work and should put them in motion without delay. Be happy at home tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Discuss the recreations you want to get into with congenials in the days ahead and plan them. Show devotion to your mate tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Avoid moot subjects in conversing with family ties so that arguments will not start up. Invite guests in for the evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A good day for communicating well with others, whether in business or personal life. Show that you are a go-getter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you handle monetary affairs properly, you can command a greater income in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Think out what you can do and whom to see in order to gain your finest aims, then full speed ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Good day to plan a new course of activity that can extend your present interests, but don't confide in others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to see as many individuals you want as allies in the days ahead, as you possible can. Be positive.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get busy at interests in the world of business and get right results today. Improve your career by taking on more responsibilities.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who must be taught to be more sociable and have friends and to realize that it is a give-and-take world and not good to isolate one's self. In this way your progeny can have many opportunities for self-advancement.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed firm helped by moderate institutional support and bullish market sentiment following last week's budget, dealers said. The F.T. 30 index showed a four point rise to 901.6 at 1500 while at 1530 the F.T.-S.E. 100 was up 6.3 to 1129.6.

ICI rose 10p to 628, Glaxo added the same amount to 865 while Hawker was up 12p to 434.

Index-linked government bonds gained up to ¼ points on institutional demand at the post-budget lower levels. Other government bonds rose by around ¼ point in quiet trading after an easier start, while North American shares were mixed.

Bestobell dropped 25p to 344 after its annual report and BICC fell 16p to 270 after 265 on profits below expectations. GKN added 2p to 317 on news it will not be allowed to bid for A.E. which fell 7½p to 88½p.

Banks were mixed with Natwest up 5p to 392 and Barclays down 7p to 514 while insurances were off best levels. Britannic added 17p to 465 after final figures and Pearl was up 12p to 744 after 747. In firm insurance brokers Willis Faber rose 34p to 766 after results Tuesday. Gold shares ended above the lows.

Among oils B.P. rose 13p to 488 on buying before the issue goes ex-dividend next Monday, other oils were mixed.

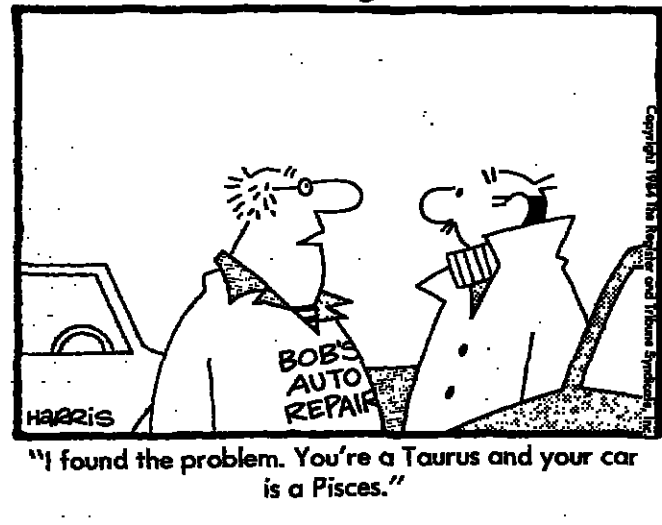
LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4283/93	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2775/79	Canadian dollars
	2.6560/70	West German marks
	2.9955/65	Dutch guilders
	2.1762/72	Swiss francs
	54.30/34	Belgian francs
	8.1790/1820	French francs
	1643.75/1644.75	Italian lire
	226.45/55	Japanese yen
	7.8300/8400	Swedish crowns
	7.6150/6250	Norwegian crowns
	9.7075/1175	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	392.00/392.50	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PERAP	KOBOR	VERREE	LUCASE
□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □	□ □ □ □ □



Answer: THE (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: STUNG GORGE BUSHEL AWHILE
Answer: The pessimist hung around the delicatessen looking for this — THE "WURST"

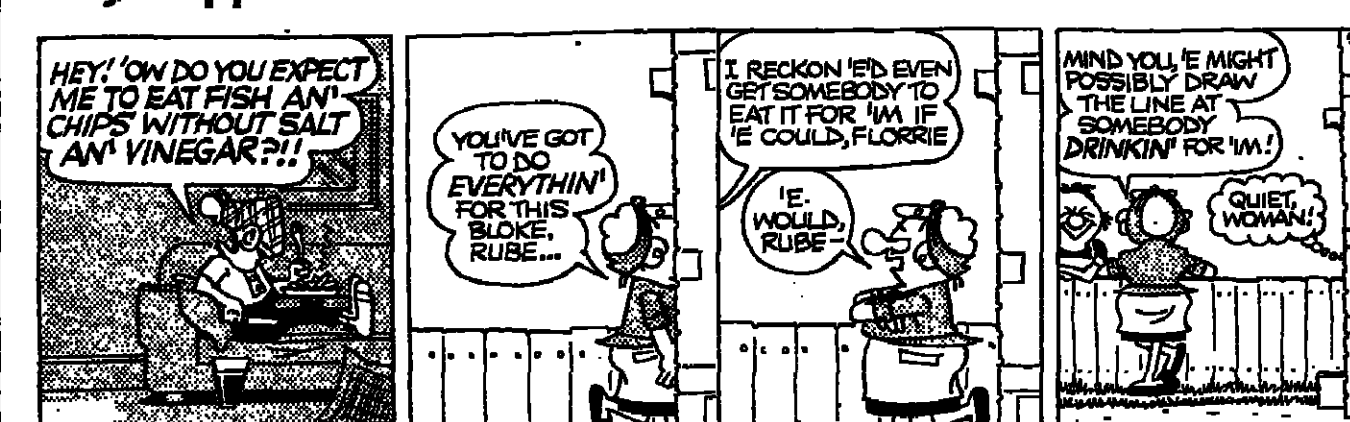
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Indian forces brace for attacks in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian security forces braced Wednesday for a fresh upsurge of extremist attacks in troubled Punjab state after the government accused a top Sikh political leader of sedition and banned a militant Sikh student union.

Official sources told Reuters that State Police Chief Pritam Singh Bhindranvala and top security officials arrived in New Delhi Tuesday night for urgent talks with Home (Interior) Ministry officials on the crisis.

The government Tuesday accused Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the main Sikh Party, the Akali Dal, of sedition arising from an open letter he sent to delegates at the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in New Delhi in November.

Mr. Longowal urged the Commonwealth leaders to help Sikhs

preserve their faith.

Tension in the sensitive border state increased further two days ago after the government banned the hardline All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF), accusing it of inciting violence.

AISSF leaders called the ban a provocation and urged followers to go into hiding as police arrested more than 400 members throughout the state.

Both Mr. Longowal and militant Sikh preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranvala have described the ban as an attack on their religion. The government said in par-

Shultz urges aid to El Salvador

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday that Congress' failure to approve \$93 million in immediate aid for El Salvador would risk a takeover by Soviet and Cuban-backed guerrillas.

"If regimes responsive to Moscow and Havana are hostile to the United States are installed in Central America, we will pay a high price for a long, long time," Mr. Shultz told reporters.

"The irony is that the price to avoid new Cubas is still relatively small," he said at a news conference.

President Reagan made similar comments Monday as the administration pressed for congressional approval this week for \$93 million in military aid for El Salvador plus 21 million for U.S.-backed rebels battling Nicaraguan guerrillas.

"To delay these funds is to hinder prospects for peace and negotiations, to prolong suffering and to strengthen the hand of our adversaries," Mr. Shultz said.

Soviet carrier, destroyer advance towards Cuba

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) — A Soviet helicopter carrier and an advanced guided-missile destroyer steamed towards Cuba on Tuesday in what the Pentagon said was a show of concern over the Caribbean.

Soviet crewmen aboard the carrier Leningrad waved at a Navy Orion F3C submarine surveillance plane carrying U.S. reporters as it passed about a dozen times within 30 metres of the helicopter carrier and two other members of a Soviet task group.

Civilian and military photographers took pictures of the 20,000-ton Leningrad, led by the 8,000-ton, guided-missile destroyer Udaloy and followed by a cargo-oiler vessel, the Ivan Bubnov, 1000 kilometres east of Florida and 180 kilometres northeast of Grand Turk Island in the Bahamas.

The Leningrad, which normally carries 18 helicopters and a variety of anti-submarine and anti-aircraft weapons, is the biggest Soviet ship to operate in the Caribbean since Moscow began sending naval units on periodic visits to the region. It is the first time these kinds of Soviet ships have been in the Caribbean area.

"It shows the importance the Soviet Union places on the region," said Pentagon spokesman Michael Burch at a Washington briefing. "We consider it a major movement. We will watch it very closely."

Nick Young, a civilian spokesman at Jacksonville Naval Air Station, said the Soviets have had cruisers, destroyers and other ships in 22 other surface deployments in the Caribbean.

"But this is the first time they've had an air-capability ship," Mr. Young said.

Official word that the Leningrad had entered Caribbean waters came from the Pentagon on Tuesday morning, Mr. Young said. There was no indication of its specific mission but the normal deployments are for one or two months, he said.

Eight reporters and photographers boarded in Jacksonville for the three-hour flight to the Soviet position.

COLUMNS 768

Fireman plans hot wedding ceremony

STATESBORO, Georgia (AP) — A tape will play the wedding march, not "burning love," but it promises to be a hot ceremony nonetheless Wednesday night when a firefighter and his bride enter a flaming house to say their wedding vows. Ralph Deal, 37, a training officer for the Statesboro Fire Department, asked Cheryl Buie to combine the ceremony with a fiery training exercise. Ms. Buie, 28, a dispatcher for the Georgia State Patrol, said her mother gave the idea a cool reception. "But I'm all for it. I'm gutsy," she said. In addition to her tape recorder, the bride will carry a fire extinguisher. The entire wedding party will wear fire-resistant gear. Mr. Deal's best man will be his father, Benton Deal, who was a firefighter for 15 years. Fire Department Dispatcher Johnna McGlammy will be the bridesmaid. The Rev. Will Griffith, a former volunteer fireman, said he never really warmed up to Mr. Deal's idea. He said he agreed to perform the service only because Mr. Deal and his family are old friends.

Birth control said to be immoral

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's leading board of Islamic scholars Tuesday denounced birth control as an obscene practice which weakened a country's moral standards, defence capability and economic development. A communique by the Council of Islamic Ideology said Western nations had spread the false notion that birth control was necessary because a fast-growing population drained national resources. The council, whose advice on the Islamic nature of Pakistani laws carries moral weight but is not legally binding, quoted from the Koran to back its view that poverty was not a valid reason to use birth control. "It leads a nation to apostasy in belief, obscenity, nationwide degradation of sexual morality, scarcity of manpower for defence requirements and economic development, and unhealthy mothers and children," it said in the statement.

Stowaways reach U.K. in container

LONDON (R) — Customs officers found three stowaways in a sealed container which arrived at a British port from Poland. A British group which supports Polish dissidents said. Police at the port town of Grays, near the mouth of the Thames, did not deny the report but said they had been instructed to say nothing about the case. Tadek Jarski, chairman of Solidarity with Solidarity, told Reuters that the three men were Poles who had hidden in the container to escape from their homeland. He said his group was concerned that the British government might refuse them entry to this country and send them back to Poland.

Senate rejects Reagan proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Senate on Tuesday rejected President Ronald Reagan's proposed constitutional amendment that would permit organised, spoken prayer in American public schools. The vote was 56-44, 11 short of the 67 votes, or two-thirds of the Senate, needed for passage. The rejection came despite a heavy lobbying effort by Mr. Reagan on behalf of the proposal to undo the supreme court's 22-year prohibition against government-sanctioned prayer in the nation's classrooms. In closing arguments, supporters claimed the amendment would follow the wishes of a majority of Americans by restoring voluntary prayer to public schools. But opponents argued that students can already pray privately without any help from Congress, and that the amendment would erode the separation of church and state.

Indian Navy ready to ease effects of nationwide strike

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian Navy was poised Wednesday to ease the effects of a nationwide dock strike as union leaders gathered here for possible talks with the government on ending the six-day stoppage.

A Shipping Ministry spokesman told Reuters that leaders of four union federations involved in the strike had arrived in New Delhi.

Two large oil refineries in Bombay sought navy help to pump vital oil supplies held up by the strike, called to support demands for higher pay and other concessions.

Port sources said the authorities were trying to berth at least one oil tanker with navy help while refinery officials said about seven oil tankers were lying idle in the port.

The two Bombay refineries, processing around 300,000 tonnes of crude a day each, have enough stocks for less than a week, industry sources said.

Cuba seizes two American yachts

MIAMI (AP) — Two U.S. yachts carrying 28 people on a race from Miami to Jamaica were seized by Cuban authorities Tuesday evening when they passed too close to the eastern tip of the Communist island, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The Brigadon and the Casha were part of a four-yacht race from the Coral Reef Yacht Club in Miami to the Jamaican port of Montego Bay, said Petty Officer Reese Bellemann.

The Yachts were rounding the eastern tip of Cuba about 6:30 p.m. (2330 GMT) when they were intercepted by a Cuban patrol boat, Bellemann said.

Nineteen people were aboard the Brigadon and nine were aboard the Casha, he said.

"From this point it is a diplomatic problem," Bellemann said. "The State Department is aware of the situation."

Kathleen Lang, a spokesman for the State Department in Washington, said the U.S. interests section in the Swiss embassy in Cuba was investigating the report of the missing boats.

Earthquake strikes Soviet Central Asia

MOSCOW (AP) — An earthquake capable of major destruction hit a 800-kilometre stretch of Soviet Central Asia before dawn Tuesday. Authorities said buildings were destroyed and an official source said it "can be assumed" there were casualties.

The TASS News Agency dispatch mentioned no deaths or injuries, and local officials reached by telephone from Moscow said no casualty reports were available. TASS also skipped details of quake damage, and the local officials declined to give specifics.

Up to 160 minor tremors daily were logged in the days before the quake, which struck along a line from the Uzbekistan capital of Tashkent southwest to the Turkmen capital of Ashkhabad on the Soviet-Iranian border.

The hardest-hit populated area was Gazli, a town of about 2,000 where at least six people died when an earthquake as strong as Tuesday's hit in 1976. At that time, there were more than 100 injuries and 10,000 people were left homeless in the region about 2,735 kilometres southeast of Moscow.

Communications were cut off Tuesday to Gazli, about 400 kilometres southwest of Tashkent, and emergency teams were en route to the area, a spokesman for the Tashkent Seismological Station told the Associated Press.

TASS and the spokesman said the quake also was felt strongly in the cities of Bukhara, population 200,000, and Samarkand, population 500,000.

"Officially, there are no casualties reported," said the Soviet source, who asked not to be identified. "But people in Samarkand said it was very powerful and it hit at a time when everyone was asleep."

Dusk-to-dawn curfew re-imposed in Calcutta

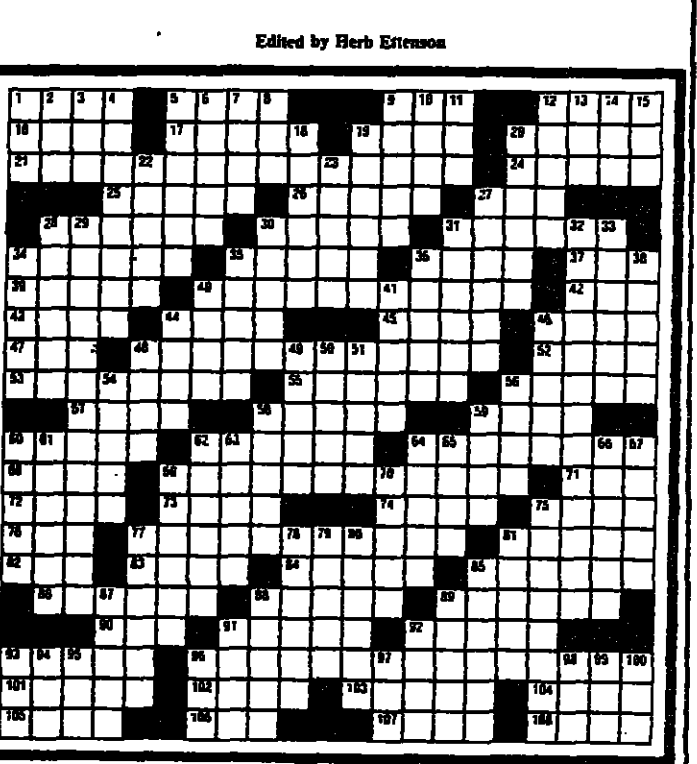
CALCUTTA (AP) — A dusk-to-dawn curfew was re-imposed in parts of Calcutta on Tuesday as the Communist-led state government announced the arrest of 30 more people in connection with weekend communal clashes.

Two police officials were lynched and two civilians slain by police gunfire in Muslim-Hindu rioting and arson in the impoverished districts of Garden Reach and Metia Bruz.

"Mr. Mehta and his security guard got detached from other members of the police force and were trapped by the violent crowd," West Bengal State Chief

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ertman



1. Cute fashion plate found velvet vest and denim jeans just don't match up.
2. Unidentified flying object produced puff of steamy smoke and objectionable reeking smell.
3. Who knows "a rose is a rose"? Like the poet, the nose knows.
4. Cuddly buyer bought Brooklyn Bridge; got new gold key with the great bargain.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. TRAE SCHRAV SUECPRAZ ACNENUE MY HBA
EAT ZVCYAP, RA LAEBUEBAZ "NRCP ICE
LACE IMVHCUEP SBV COO BS MP." —By Marc Maurer

2. GIPDX SHONREX COEDNE DMIALHZ RDX
MAAZ ZAYEALX ALZHL EA XEOJ OBB YAK.
HLHZ CC OE RASH; RH POX XCAEENZ HXBLJ.
FRHLH. —By Marlene E. Adams

3. REASONUS BHURCLFG AGANHRI GNI US ZLGO,
"EW, ZAGO CLBNAGL UOG OWFL." —By Connie Rosenfeld

4. EOZY KIDUONR SKGY LOSDG GLUDDON WUI.
MZV KIDAGO MARKET. —By E.L. Livingston

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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PRESIDENTIAL PEROGATIVE

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K 9 8
♥ A K J 5 3
♦ Q J 10
♣ 8 3

EAST
♠ 6 4
♥ 8 2
♦ A 6 2
♣ K 7 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 7 3
♥ 7 6
♦ K 5 4
♠ A Q

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠.

Time magazine has featured bridge only twice. One time was in 1957, when Charles Goren was on the cover of the news magazine and several hands were included in the feature story inside. The other was four years earlier, when Time decided to look in on the most famous game in the country — the weekly Saturday night game held by President Eisenhower in the White House.

The magazine carried this

Report says U.K. firms must take over repair of warships

LONDON (R) — Britain's defence chiefs have been advised in a secret report to let private firms take over refit and repair work on warships, including Polaris nuclear submarines, the Defence Ministry acknowledged Tuesday.

The Defence Ministry said proposals in the report, leaked to an opposition Labour member of parliament and published Tuesday in the Guardian newspaper, were only preliminary.

The report was written by Peter Levene, who is on a six-month assignment as personal adviser to Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine, a ministry spokesman said. Mr. Levene is also chairman of a company which makes armaments and vice-chairman of the Defence Manufacturers' Association.

It said private firms should take over work worth about £500 million (\$730 million) a year at two naval dockyards currently done by about 25,000 state employees.

It would be the most startling piece of "privatisation" by Mrs. Thatcher, who is reversing decades of nationalisation by Labour governments and returning key industries to private hands.

But Britain would not be alone in having off such work. In the United States a large share of secret defence work is handled by private firms under Pentagon supervision.

The Labour Party later failed in parliament to get an emergency debate on the plan, which it condemned as sacrificing national security to commercial advantage.

Air force surgent changes testimony in Aquino case

MANILA (R) — An air force sergeant, changing his testimony at an inquiry into the murder of former Philippines Senator Benigno Aquino, said Wednesday he saw the opposition leader fall onto the tarmac after a shot was fired.

Sergeant Leonardo Mojica was among the military guard posted to Manila Airport last August when Sen. Aquino returned to the Philippines from the United States.

He testified last November that he saw Sen. Aquino and his escorts descend about halfway down the staircase from the China Air Lines plane but then had looked elsewhere.

Returning Wednesday to the witness stand, Sgt. Mojica said he heard a shot and saw Sen. Aquino and a uniformed soldier fall onto the tarmac. There was no one else around them at that moment, he said.

"I did not see anybody else around them when I saw them fall," Sgt. Mojica replied, when pressed by commission chairman former appeals court judge Corason Agava.

The military has claimed that Sen. Aquino was already on the tarmac when he was shot in the back of the head by a man they identified as Rolando Galman, who was himself shot by guards.

Three previous military witnesses testified that they saw Mr. Galman dart from behind Sen.

Diagrammes

19 X 19, by Lara Alexander

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